Etymology of Linnaeus' Plant Genera

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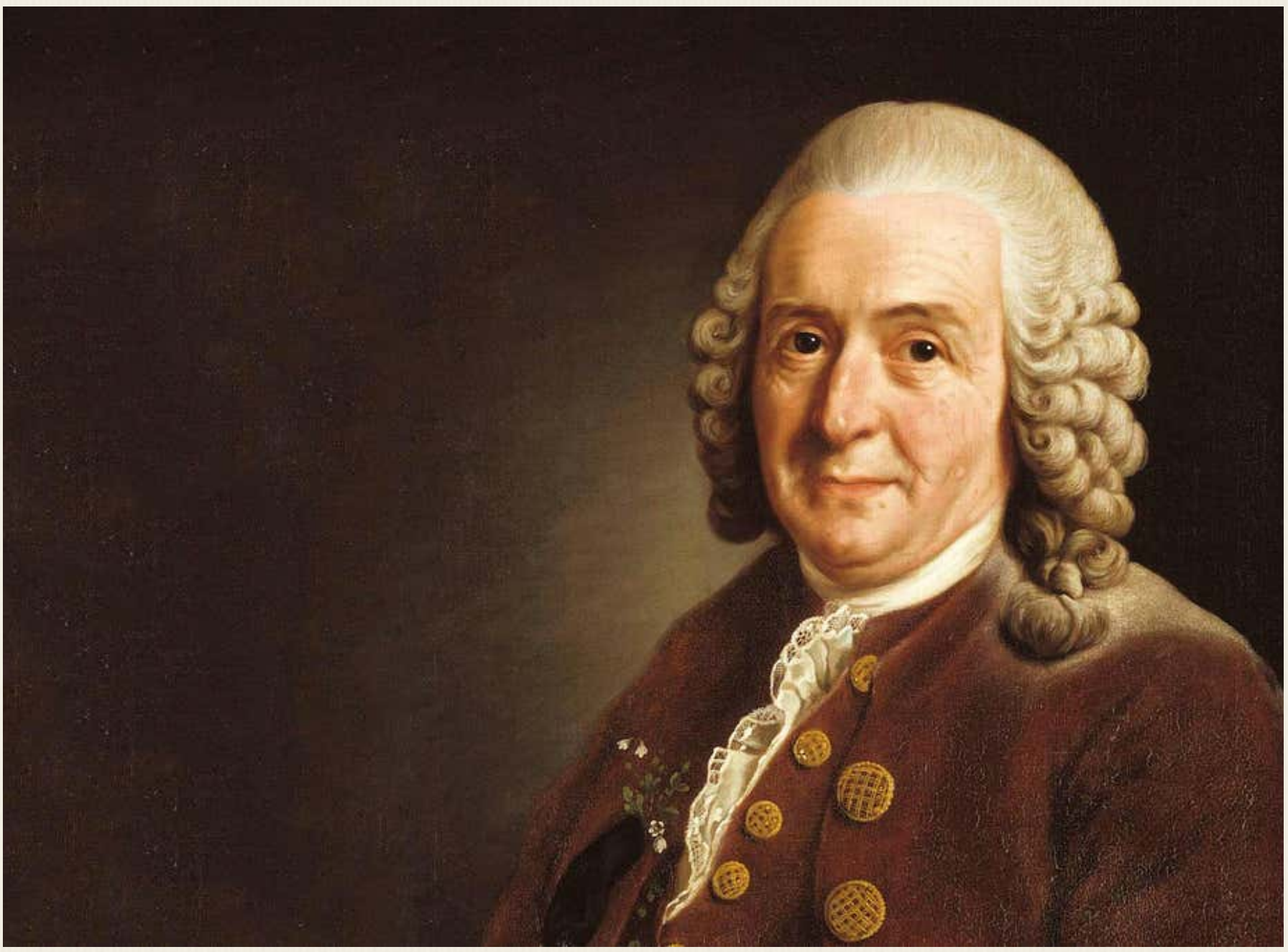

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Cover- oil painting by Alexander Roslin. 1775. Three years before Linnaeu's death.

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Introduction

This publication presents meanings for 1,278 generic names attributed to Carl Linnaeus. The names were found by searching the Tropicos database for L. and the genus category, and substracting the names of other authors whose abbreviation includes L. Names of mosses that have been assigned to Johann Hedwig are included, as well as some names of fungi and algae, which were then considered plants.

The etymology of a name is known beyond a doubt when the author explains it, when it is obvious to whom it was dedicated (*Hippocratea*), and when it corresponds to a prominent characteristic of the organism (*Scorpiurus*). In all other cases, determining the origin of the name is a process of inquiry and guesswork, with fluctuating gradations between almost complete certainty and almost total uncertainty. Fortunately, today we can access online almost all the scientific literature, as well as photographs of many plants, which increases the probability of approaching a precise meaning.

The etymology was obtained from the resources listed in the next two pages, and from a variety of publications available online, including dictionaries, taxonomic reviews, regional floras, and pages dedicated to particular plant groups. The reader will note that sometimes two (or three) meanings are offered that seem to conflict with each other; this occurs when Linnaeus did not explain the name and different sources have offered different explanations. Linnaeus explained very few names in his original descriptions, but explained many in *Critica Botanica* (1737) and *Philosophia Botanica* (1751), whose English translations by Arthur Hort and Stephen Freer have been very useful.

The reader should remember that names based on plant characteristics apply to the plants Linnaeus knew when he established the genus and not necessarily to species added later; it is also possible that species included by Linnaeus in one genus have been transferred to another. This may explain the lack of correspondence between the meaning of a name and species the reader is familiar with.

Lotte Burkhardt of the Berlin Botanical Garden kindly helped with the meaning of several names. Her patience, time, and publications are sincerely appreciated.

Resources

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The names

A

Acalypha Euphorbiaceae- from *akalephe*, Greek name for the nettle (*Urtica*); transferred to this plant because the leaves are similar; from *a-* (without), *kalos* (pleasant), and *aphe* (touch): touching them is unpleasant.

Acanthus Acanthaceae- from Acantha, a nymph transformed by Apollo into a prickly plant; *akanthos* means spine in Greek, the leaves and the inlforescence have spines.

Acer Sapindaceae- Latin name for maple, also meaning sharp, pointed; according to some sources because the Romans used the wood to make spears, according to others because the leaves are pointed.

Achillea Asteraceae- from Achilles, hero of the Iliad, who learned from the centaur Chiron about the medicinal powers of the plant.

Achras Sapotaceae- Greek name for a wild pear, transferred to plants placed today in *Manilkara*, perhaps because of some similarity between the fruit and the pear.

Achyranthes Amaranthaceae- from Greek *achyron* (straw) and *anthos* (flower), because the folioles of the calyx seem to be made of straw.

Achyronia Fabaceae- from Greek *achyron* (straw), for the appearance of the calyx.

Acnida Amaranthaceae- from Greek *a-* (without) and *knide* (a Greek name for the nettle), because it resembles that plant but does not sting.

Aconitum Ranunculaceae- from *akonitum*, Greek name for these highly toxic plants which were used to poison animals; for Linnaeus, from *a-* (without) and *konios* (dust, in the sense of soil) because the plant grows in rocky places. Theophrastus derived the name from the village of Acone, in Bithynia, where the plant grew.

Acorus Acoraceae- from Greek *a-* (without) and *kore* (pupil), because the plant was used to treat the eyes; from *akoron*, Greek name for the aromatic plants *A. calamus* and *Iris pseudacorus*, whose roots were used in the cosmetics industry.

Acrostichum Pteridaceae- from Greek *akros* (top) and *stichos* (row, line), because the sorii are grouped in a line, like letters form a line at the beginning of a text.

Actaea Ranunculaceae- from Actaeon, son of Apollo and student of the healing centaur Chiron, the plant has medicinal properties.

Adansonia Malvaceae- for Michel Adanson (1727-1806), French naturalist, botanist and plant collector.

Adelia Euphorbiaceae- from the Greek *a-* (without) and *delos* (visibility), apparently because the flower and/or fruit are hard to see.

Adenanthera Fabaceae- from the Greek *aden* (gland) and *anthera* (anther), because the tip of the anther has a small gland.

Adiantum Pteridaceae- Greek name for the ferns called maidenhair; from *a-* (without) and *diainen* (to wet), because the leaves repel water.

Adonis Ranunculaceae- from Adonis, god of beauty and vegetation, symbolized the death of vegetation in autumn and its renewal every spring.

Adoxa Viburnaceae- from the Greek *a-* (without) and *doxa* (glory, fame), because the greenish flowers go unnoticed.

Aegilops Poaceae- from *aegiles* or *aigilops*, Greek name for a herb with long awns and/or a herb preferred by goats; in turn from *aigos* (goat) and *opsis* (similar), for some similarity (perhaps the long awns) to a goat's face.

Aeginetia Orobanchaceae- for Paul of Aegina (Paulus Aegineta) (c.625-c. 690), Greek physician and traveler, wrote the most comprehensive medical encyclopedia of his time.

Aegopodium Apiaceae- from Greek *aigos* (goat) and *podium* (foot), for the shape of the leaves.

Aegopricum Euphorbiaceae- from Greek *aigos* (goat) and *pikros* (bitter, acrid), without specifying the relationship with the plant.

Aeschynomene Fabaceae- Greek name for a sensitive plant; from *aischynomene* (shame, embarrassment), because the leaf retracts when touched.

Aesculus Sapindaceae- Latin name for a type of oak with edible acorns (probably *Quercus esculus*= *Q. petraea*), transferred to this different tree apparently to preserve the name.

Aethusa Apiaceae- a daughter of Poseidon and Alcyone, lover of Apollo.

Agaricus Agaricaceae- from Agaria, in the region of Sarmatia, eastern Europe.

Agave Asparagaceae- in Greek mythology, a daughter of Cadmus and Harmonia, wife of Echion. *Agavos* means admirable, noble, and may be related to the appearance of the plant, especially when in bloom.

Ageratum Asteraceae- from Greek *a-* (without) and *geras* (old age), because the flower takes a long time to wither.

Agrimonia Rosaceae- apparently from *argemone*, Greek name for a plant used to treat cataracts; from *argemos* (white spot), for the typical spots associated with cataracts.

Agrostemma Caryophyllaceae- from Greek *agros* (field) and *stemma* (crown, garland), apparently because the flowers beautified the fields and/or were used in crowns and garlands.

Agrostis Poaceae- Greek name for grasses, probably forage grasses; from *agros* (field).

Agyneia Euphorbiaceae- from Greek *a-* (without) and *gyne* (female, woman), because the flowers lack style and stigma.

Aira Poaceae- Latin name for another grass, possibly *Lolium temulentum*, used for these grasses apparently to preserve the name.

Aizoon Aizoaceae- from Greek *aei* (always) and *zoon* (living being), because the leaves are always green.

Ajuga Lamiaceae- perhaps from *abiga*, Greek name for an unknown plant capable of causing abortions.

Albuca Asparagaceae- from Latin *albus* (white) or *albicans* (turning white), for the color of the flowers.

Alcea Malvaceae- from *alkaia*, Greek name for an unknown mallow; from *alceone* (cure, remedy), for its medicinal properties.

Alchemilla Rosaceae- from Arabic *alkemelyeh* (alchemy), apparently because the dew on the leaves was attributed miraculous properties.

Aldrovanda Droseraceae- for Ulisse Aldrovandi (Ulysses Aldrovandus) (1522-1605), Italian pharmacist, physician, naturalist, and botanist.

Aletris Nartheciaceae- Greek name for the women responsible for grinding grains and making flour, for the powdery surface of these plants.

Alisma Alismataceae- Latin name for water plantain (*A. aquatica*); from Celtic *alis* (water), because the plant is aquatic.

Allamanda Apocynaceae- for Frédéric Louis Allamand (1736-1803), Swiss physician, botanist and plant collector.

Allionia Nyctaginaceae- for Carlo Ludovico Allioni (1728-1804), Italian physician and botanist, correspondent of Linnaeus.

Allium Amaryllidaceae- Latin name for garlic; from Celtic *all* (rough, hot, spicy), for the sensation it produces when bitten.

Allophylus Sapindaceae- from Greek *allos* (different, other) and *phylon* (nation, tribe), apparently because the plant is native to a foreign country.

Aloe Asphodelaceae- Greek name for aloe vera (*A. vera*), from the Arabic *alloch*.

Alopecuro-veronica Lamiaceae- from Greek *alopekouros* (fox's tail, *alopex*- fox, *oura*- tail), due to the shape of the flower spike. The second part apparently refers to the genus *Veronica*.

Alopecurus Poaceae- from Greek *alopekouros* (fox tail: *alopex*- fox, *oura*- tail), for the shape of the flower spike.

Alpinia Zingiberaceae- for Prospero Alpini (1553-1617), Italian physician and botanist.

Alsine Caryophyllaceae- Greek and Latin name possibly for a chick weed; transferred to these plants for their habitat, from *alsos* (grove).

Alstroemeria Alstroemeriaceae- for Clas Alströmer (1736-1794), Swedish naturalist and plant collector, pupil and friend of Linnaeus.

Althaea Malvaceae- in Greek mythology, wife of Oeneus (king of Caledonia) and daughter of Thestius (king of Aetolia); from *althaia* (cure, healer), for the medicinal properties of the plant.

Alyssum Brassicaceae- from Greek *a-* (without) and *lisos* (courage, madness, rage), because the plant was used to treat rabies caused by dog bites.

Amaranthus Amaranthaceae- from Greek *amarantos* (without fading or wilting), because the flower lasts a long time, from *a-* (without) and *mairaino* (wither).

Amaryllis Amaryllidaceae- Greek nymph and shepherdess whose story served as inspiration for many poets.

Ambrosia Asteraceae- food of the Greek gods, eating it provided immortality, from *ambrotus* (immortal).

Amellus Asteraceae- Latin name for the Italian aster (*Aster amellus*); because the flower grew on the banks of the Mella River in northern Italy.

Amethystea Lamiaceae- the flowers are the color of amethyst; from the Greek *a-* without and *methysein* (drunkenness), because amethyst amulets were believed to protect against drunkenness.

Ammannia Lythraceae- for Paul Ammann (1634-1691), German physician and botanist.

Ammi Apiaceae- Greek and Latin name for an unknown plant of this family, used for this plant because of its habitat, from Greek *ammos* (sand).

Amomum Zingiberaceae- from Greek *amomon*, name of an aromatic shrub from India that Romans used to prepare a fragrant balm; from Greek *a-* without and *momos* (impurity), from the use of some plants against poisoning.

Amorpha Fabaceae- from Greek *a-* without and *morphe* (form), because the flower has no wings or keel.

Amygdalus Rosaceae- Greek name for the almond (*Prunus* (*Amygdalus*) *dulcis*).

Anabasis Amaranthaceae- Greek names for horsetail (*Equisetum*), transferred to this superficially similar plant.

Anacampseros Anacampserotaceae- Greek name for a plant, possibly a species of *Sedum*, capable of restoring passion and lost love; from Greek *anakamptein* (to return) and *eros* (love); or from Greek *anakampto* (to bend down) and *-eros* (capable of), for the ripe fruits of some species.

Anacardium Anacardiaceae- name used in the 16th century for the fruit of *Semecarpus anacardium* because it resembles a heart, transferred to this plant because the fruit is similar; from the Greek *kardia* (heart), the first part of the name is said to come from *ana* (above, on top) or *ana* (similar), but Linnaeus seems to derive it from *a-* or *ana-* (without), perhaps because the "heart" seems to be outside the fruit.

Anacyclus Asteraceae- abbreviation of *ananthocyclus*; from Greek *a-* without, *anthos*- flower and *kyklos* (ring, circle), because around the inflorescence disc there are several rings of ovaries without flowers.

Anagallis Primulaceae- from Greek *anagelao* (to laugh), because the plant was used to treat sadness.

Anagyris Fabaceae- from Greek *ana* (backwards) and *gyros* (ring, circle), for the shape of the pods.

Anastatica Brassicaceae- from Greek *anastasis* (resurrection), because a dry plant recovers when placed in water. *Anastatica hierochuntica* is the rose of Jericho, also called the resurrection plant.

Anchusa Boraginaceae- Latin name for *Alkanna tinctoria*, from whose roots a red dye used in lipsticks and rouge is prepared; from Greek *agchoresa* (face paint, makeup).

Andrachne Phyllanthaceae- Greek name for purslane and strawberry tree (*Arbutus unedo*); Linnaeus suggests some relationship with *andros*- male, manly.

Andromeda Ericaceae- daughter of Cepheus and Cassiopeia, wife of Perseus and mother of seven children; upon her death, Athena placed them all among the northern constellations.

Andropogon Poaceae- from Greek *andros* (male, stamen, anther) and *pogon* (beard), because the hairy spikelets resemble a beard.

Androsace Primulaceae- Greek name for an unknown plant, transferred to this plant because the leaf resembles an ancient shield, from *andros* (male) and *sakos* (shield).

Andryala Asteraceae- from Greek *andros* (male, stamen, anther) and another word meaning error or distraction, the relationship with the plant being unknown.

Anemone Ranunculaceae- nymph wife of Zephyrus, Greek god of the wind, turned into these flowers by Chloris; anemos means wind, these plants often grow in windy places.

Anethum Apiaceae- Latin name for fennel (*A. graveolens*).

Angelica Apiaceae- from *herba Angelica*, ancient name for *A. archangelica*, known for its medicinal qualities.

Annona Annonaceae- from *anona* or *anón*, Taíno name for the tree and its fruit; to adapt it to classical languages, Linnaeus derived it from Latin *annona* (harvest).

Anthemis Asteraceae- Greek name for chamomile (*A. nobilis*), possibly from *anthemon* (flower), because the plant produces many flowers.

Anthericum Asparagaceae- from *antherikon*, Greek name for the flower spike of the asphodel; from *anthos* (flower) and *kerkos* (hedge), for how it was planted.

Anthoceros Anthocerotaceae- from Greek *anthos* (flower) and *kerastes* (horn), because the sporophyte resembles a horn; at the time it was thought that hornworts had flowers.

Antholyza Iridaceae- from Greek *anthos* (flower) and *lyssa* (fury), for a certain resemblance between the open flower and the mouth of an animal ready to bite.

Anthospermum Rubiaceae- from Greek *anthos* (flower) and *sperma* (seed), because the female flower lacks petals and sexual organs, resembling a seed; or because the male flower occasionally has an ovary and produces seeds.

Anthoxanthum Poaceae- from Greek *anthos* (flower) and *xanthos* (yellow), because the spikelets are yellowish.

Anthylis Fabaceae- Greek name for a plant with woolly calyces, from *anthos* (flower) and *ioylos* (woolly, downy).

Antichorus Malvaceae- apparently from Greek *anti* (against, similar) and *chorus* (abbreviated from *Corchorus*), indicating similarity between both plants.

Antidesma Phyllanthaceae- from Greek *anti* (against, similar) and *desma* (link), because the bark was used to make rope; Burman uses *desma* to mean poison, because the plant was used as an antidote for snakebites.

Antirrhinum Plantaginaceae- from Greek *anti* (against, similar) and *rhinos* (snout, nose), for the flower's resemblance to the snout of certain animals.

Aphanes Rosaceae- from Greek *a-* (without) and *phane* (appearance): invisible, because the plant is small and creeping, or because the flowers are small and difficult to find.

Aphyllanthes Asparagaceae- from Greek *a-* (without), *phyllon* (leaf) and *anthos* (flower), because flowers appear at the end of leafless stems.

Aphyteia Hydnoraceae- from Greek *a-* (without) and *phyton* (plant), because it has no leaves, stems and roots.

Apium Apiaceae- Latin name for celery and parsley; from Celtic *apon* (water), because the plants grow naturally in moist soil.

Apluda Poaceae- Latin name for the fine chaff of grasses, used for these grasses apparently to preserve the name.

Apocynum (Apocynaceae)- from *apokynon*, Greek name for a plant called dogbane which was used to poison dogs; from *apo* (far) and *kyon* (dog).

Aquilegia Ranunculaceae- perhaps from Latin *aquila* (eagle), because the petals bear some resemblance to the claws of a bird of prey; or from Latin *aqua* (water) and *legere* (to collect), for the accumulation of nectar in the flower.

Aquilicia Vitaceae- from Latin *aqua* (water) and *elicire* (to attract), because the plant grows in humid places.

Arabis Brassicaceae- from Arabia; or because it grows in sandy and stony places like those in Arabia.

Arachis Fabaceae- Greek name for a plant without leaves or stems, only roots, from *a-* (without) and *rachis* (branch); transferred to the peanut possibly because its fruit develops underground.

Aralia Araliaceae- apparently from *aralie*, a French-Canadian or Native American name for the plant.

Arbutus Ericaceae- Latin name for the strawberry tree (*A. unedo)*; from Celtic *ar* (rough) and *boise* (bush), for the texture of the fruit.

Arctium Asteraceae- apparently from Greek *arktos* (bear), for the thick hair of these animals and the fruit covered with bristles.

Arctopus Apiaceae- from Greek *arktos* (bear) and *podos* (foot), because the leaves grow flat on the ground, giving the plant a certain resemblance to a bear's foot.

Arctotis Asteraceae- from Greek *arktos* (bear) and *otos* (ear), because the scales of the pappus resemble bear ears, or because the capsules or seeds are hairy like a bear.

Areca Arecaceae- from *arik* or *areec*, name of the palm in Malabar, India.

Arenaria Caryophyllaceae- from Latin *arena* (sand) and *-aria* (related), because the plant grows naturally in sandy soils.

Arethusa Orchidaceae- naiad from Greek mythology who was transformed by Artemis into a spring (the plant prefers humid places).

Aretia Primulaceae- for Benedictus Aretius (c.1505-1574), Swiss astronomer, geographer and botanist.

Argemone Papaveraceae- Greek name for a type of poppy used to treat cataracts; from *argemon* (cataracts).

Aristida Poaceae- from Latin *arista* (beard), alluding to the beard (awn) of an ear of corn, because the lemmas of the flowers are hairy.

Aristolochia Aristolochiaceae- from Artemis (also Locheia), Greek goddess of the forest, hunting, wild animals, women, children, and the birth process; from *aristos* (best) and *lochia* (birth), the plant was used during childbirth, particularly to expel the placenta.

Arnica Asteraceae- from Greek *ptarnike* (to sneeze), for the effect of the crushed flowers; from Greek *arnakis* (sheepskin), because the leaves are soft and silky.

Artedia Apiaceae- for Peter Artedi (1705-1735), Swedish physician, naturalist and ichthyologist, very close friend of Linnaeus.

Artemisia Asteraceae- for Artemisia II, queen of Caria (?-350 BCE), wife and successor of Mausolus II.

Arum Araceae- from *aron*, Egyptian name for a similar plant with edible roots.

Aruncus Rosaceae- from Greek *aryngos* (goat's beard), for the appearance of the spike full of white flowers.

Arundo Poaceae- Latin name for a reed, perhaps from Celtic *aru* (water, aquatic) because the plant grows in wetlands.

Asarum Aristolochiaceae- Greek and Latin name for these plants, known as wild gingers; seemingly from *a-* (without) and a word meaning rope or link, because it was excluded from wreaths.

Asclepias Apocynaceae- from Asclepius, Greek god of medicine and physicians.

Ascyrum Hypericaceae- from Greek *askyron*, name for a plant of the genus *Hypericum*, transferred to these plants because the leaves are soft to the touch; from Greek *a-* (without) and *skyros* (roughness, hardness).

Aspalathus Fabaceae- Latin name for an unknown thorny shrub native to Greece, transferred to these plants because they are bushy and thorny.

Asparagus Asparagaceae- Latin name for *A. officinalis*; from *asper* (rough), for the roughness of the plant.

Asperugo Boraginaceae- from Latin *asper* (rough), for the roughness of the plant.

Asperula Rubiaceae- from Latin *asper* (rough) and *-ula* (diminutive), for the roughness of the plant.

Asphodelus Asphodelaceae- Greek name for the asphodel *A. ramosus* and related species.

Asplenium Aspleniaceae- Latin name for the ferns known as spleenworts; from *a-* (without) and *splen* (spleen), because they were used to cure obstructions of the spleen (probably also of the liver and gallbladder).

Aster Asteraceae- from Astraea, goddess of justice, daughter of Zeus and Themis, placed by her father in the constellation Virgo; Latin name for stars, for the appearance of flowers.

Astragalus Fabaceae- Greek name for an unknown legume; or from Greek *astron* (star) and *gala* (milk), because eating the plant (*milkvetch*) supposedly increased milk production; or Latin name for the ankle bone, due to its resemblance with the roots and/or seeds.

Astrantia Apiaceae- From Greek *astron* (star) and *anti* (comparison), from the appearance of the flowers, which together resemble a constellation of stars.

Athamanta Apiaceae- from Athamas, king of Thessaly in Greek mythology.

Athanasia Asteraceae- from Greek *a-* (without) and *thanatos* (death), because the flowers and/or involucral bracts last a long time.

Atractylis Asteraceae- Greek name for a plant whose stems were used to make thread spindles; from *atraktos* (axis, spindle).

Atragene Ranunculaceae- Greek name for a plant possibly of the genus *Clematis*; used for these plants of the same family.

Atraphaxis Polygonaceae- Greek name for the orach (*Atriplex hortensis*); from Greek *a-* (without) and *trephos* (to nourish), because the fruit is tasteless and not nutritious.

Atriplex Amaranthaceae- from *atriplexum*, Latin name for the orach (*A. hortensis*); from atraphaxis (see the previous genus).

Atropa Solanaceae- from Atropos, one of the Greek Moirai (personifications of fate), charged with cutting the thread of life; because the leaves and fruits of the deadly nightshade (*A. belladonna*) are very poisonous.

Avena Poaceae- Latin name for oats; from the Celtic *aten*, *etan* (to eat), for its ancient use as food.

Averrhoa Oxalidaceae- for Averroes (Ibn Rushd) (1126-1198), Arab philosopher and physician.

Avicennia Acanthaceae- for Avicenna (Ibn Sïnä) (c.980-1037), Persian philosopher, , historian and physician.

Axyris Amaranthaceae- from Greek *axyrus* (rough), for the texture of the leaf; or *axyres* (blunt), because its flavor is not spicy.

Ayenia Malvaceae- for Louis de Noailles, Duke of Ayén (1713-1793), French military officer and botany enthusiast.

Azalea Ericaceae- from the Greek *azaleos* (rough, dry, toasted), for the habitat of *A. procumbens*.

B

Baccharis Asteraceae- from Bacchus, Greek god of the grape harvest, wine production and wine itself.

Baeckea Myrtaceae- for Abraham Bäck (Baeckius) (1713-1795), Swedish physician and botanist, great friend of Linnaeus.

Ballota Lamiaceae- Greek and Latin name of the black horehound (*B. nigra*); apparently from Greek *ballo* (to repel), for the plant's offensive odor.

Baltimora Asteraceae- for Frederick Calvert, 6th Baron Baltimore (1731–1771), English nobleman and traveler, visited Linnaeus in 1770.

Banisteria Malpighiaceae- for John Banister (1650-1692), English naturalist and botanist.

Barleria Acanthaceae- for Jacques Barrelier (1606-1673), French botanist and physician.

Barreria Bruniaceae- for Pierre Barrère (1690-1755), French physician, naturalist and plant collector.

Bartramia Malvaceae- for John Bartram (1699-1777), American gardener, botanist and plant collector, correspondent of Linnaeus.

Bartsia Orobanchaceae- for Johann Bartsch (Johannes Bartsius) (1709-1738), German naturalist, botanist and plant collector, acquaintance and correspondent of Linnaeus.

Basella Basellaceae- from *basella-kira* or a similar name for the plant in Malabar, India; to bring it into line with classical languages, Linnaeus derived it from Latin *bassium* (kiss) and added *-ella* (diminutive).

Bauhinia Fabaceae- for Swiss brothers and botanists Johann Bauhin (1541-1613) and Caspar Bauhin (1560-1624).

Begonia Begoniaceae- for Michel Bégon (1638-1710), French colonial administrator and plant collector.

Bellis Asteraceae- for Swedish king Eystein Beli (Bellus) (?-770). Also spelled *Bellium*.

Bellonia Gesneriaceae- for Pierre Belon (Petrus Bellonius) (1517-1564), French naturalist, ichthyologist, traveler, and writer.

Berberis Berberidaceae- from *berberys*, Arabic name for the fruit.

Bergia Elatinaceae- for Peter Jonas Bergius (1730-1790), Swedish physician and botanist.

Besleria Gesneriaceae- for Basilius Besler (1561-1629), German pharmacist and botanist.

Beta Amaranthaceae- Latin name for beet (*B. vulgaris*); from Celtic *bett* (red), for the color of the root.

Betonica Lamiaceae- from *bentonic* or *beutonic*, Celtic name for *Stachys officinalis* (bettony, common hedgenettle).

Betula Amaranthaceae- from *betu*, Celtic name for birches.

Bidens Asteraceae- from Latin *bi* (two) and *dens* (tooth), the fruit has two projections.

Bignonia Bignoniaceae- for Jean Paul Bignon (1662-1743), French writer and librarian to Louis XIV.

Biscutella Brassicaceae- from Latin *bi-* (two) and *scutella* (small shield, saucer), for shape of the fruit.

Biserrula Fabaceae- from Latin *bi-* (two), *serra* (saw) and *-ula* (diminutive), the pod appears to have teeth on both sides and thus resembles a saw.

Bistorta Polygonaceae- from Latin *bis* (two) and *tortus* (twisted), for the roots twice twisted.

Bixa Bixaceae- from *bija*, Taíno name for achiote- *B. orellana*.

Blaeria Ericaceae- for Patrick Blair (1666-1728), Scottish surgeon, anatomist and botanist.

Blasia Blasiaceae- for Blasio Biagi (c.1670-1735), Italian cleric and botanist.

Blechnum Blechnaceae- from *blechnon*, Greek name for an unknown fern, used for this fern apparently to preserve the name.

Blitum Amaranthaceae- ancient name for an unknown plant, perhaps the strawberry blite (*B. capitatum*); from Greek *bliton* (tasteless), because it has no flavor.

Bobartia Iridaceae- for Jacob Bobart (1599-1680), English botanist; and/or for his father Jacob Bobart (Bobert) (1599- c. 1680), German-English botanist.

Bocconia Papaveraceae- for Paolo Boccone (1633-1704), Italian physician, botanist and plant collector.

Boerhavia Nyctaginaceae- for Herman Boerhaave (1668-1738), Dutch physician and botanist, friend and patron of Linnaeus.

Boletus Boletaceae- Latin name for mushrooms; from *bolos* (ball, round mass), due to its shape.

Bombax Malvaceae- one of the Greek names for cotton, from *bombyx* (silk) for the silky fiber surrounding the seeds.

Bontia Scrophulariaceae- for Jacob de Bondt (Jacobus Bontius) (1592-1631), Dutch physician and traveler.

Borago Boraginaceae- perhaps from Latin *burra* (a type of woolly garment), due to its hairy leaves; from *corago*, Greek name for a plant that affected the heart.

Borassus Arecaceae- from *borassos*, Greek name for the spadix of the date palm, used for a different palm.

Borbonia Fabaceae- for Gaston de France (Jean Baptiste Gaston de Bourbon, Duc d'Orléans) (1608-1660), French military officer and patron of botany.

Bosea Amaranthaceae- for Caspar Bose (1645-1700), German merchant and horticulturist; and for his brother George Bose (1650-1700), merchant and councillor; owners of a large botanical garden.

Brabejum Proteaceae- from Greek *brabeion* (scepter, prize); because the leaves arranged in rings and leaves can be used to make wreaths.

Brabyla Proteaceae- apparently an alternate name for *Brabejum*.

Brassica Brassicaceae- Latin name for cabbage (*B. oleracea*); from *bresic*, Celtic name for the plant.

Breynia Capparaceae- for Jacob Breyne (1637-1697), German merchant, naturalist and botanist.

Briza Poaceae- Greek name for a type of cereal, possibly rye, transferred to these grasses because the ear bends downwards, giving the impression of dozing or nodding off; from the Greek *brizo* (to nod).

Bromelia Bromeliaceae- for Olof Ole Bromel (Bromelius) (1639-1705), Swedish physician and botanist.

Bromus Poaceae- from *bromos*, Greek name for oats, in turn from *bromo* (food), transferred to these grasses apparently because they served as animal feed.

Brossaea Ericaceae- for Guy de La Brosse (1586-1641), French physician and botanist.

Browallia Solanaceae- for Johan Browall (1707-1755), Swedish naturalist, botanist and plant collector.

Brunfelsia Solanaceae- for Otto Brunfels (1488-1534), German physician and botanist.

Bryonia Cucurbitaceae- Greek and Latin name for the plants known as bryony; from the Greek *bryo* (to grow quickly), for their exuberant growth.

Bryum Bryaceae- Greek name for an unknown bryophyte, transferred to this plant apparently to preserve the name.

Bubon Apiaceae- from Greek *boubon* (groin), because it was used to reduce inflammation in this part of the body.

Bucephalon Moraceae- from Greek *boukephalos* (ox head), for the appearance of the female flowers of *B. racemosum*, from *bous* (ox) and *kephale* (head).

Buchnera Orobanchaceae- for Andreas Elias Buchner (1701-1769), German physician and naturalist.

Bucida Combretaceae- from Latin *bous* (ox), because the fruits attacked by mites grow abnormally and recall ox horns.

Buddleja Scrophulariaceae- for Adam Buddle (c.1660-1715), English botanist and plant collector.

Bufonia Caryophyllaceae- for Georges Louis Leclerc, Comte de Buffon (1707-1788), French physician and botanist.

Bulbocodium Colchicaceae- from Greek *bulbos* (bulb) and *kodion* (wool), because the bulb has a woolly covering.

Bunias Brassicaceae- from *bounias*, Greek name perhaps for *Brassica napus*, from *bunios* (hill), for the plant's preferred habitat.

Bunium Apiaceae- from *bounion*, Greek name for the earth-nut, a plant with edible tuberous roots, perhaps *B. ferulaceum*; from *bunios* (hill), for the plant's preferred habitat.

Buphthalmum Asteraceae- from Greek *bous* (ox) and *opthalmus* (eye), apparently for a certain resemblance between the central disc of the inflorescence and the eye of an ox.

Bupleurum Apiaceae- from *boupleuros*, Greek name for an unknown plant; from *bous* (ox) and *pleuron* (rib, side), the relationship with the plant being unknown.

Burmannia Burmanniaceae- for Johannes Burman (1707-1780), Dutch physician and botanist.

Butomus Butomaceae- from Greek *bous* (ox) and *temno* (to cut), because the edges of the leaf are very sharp and can cut the mouths of animals.

Buxus Buxaceae- Latin name for boxwood or box-tree, probably *B. sempervirens.*

Byssus Trentepohliaceae- Latin name for a fine cotton or silk fabric, for the growth of hyphae.

C

Cacalia Asteraceae- from *kakalia*, Greek name for an unknown plant, somewhat resembling *C. alpina*; or from *kakos* (destructive) and *lian* (excessively), because it is a harmful weed or burns easily.

Cachrys Apiaceae- Latin name for rosemary, perhaps from Greek *kachrys* in its meaning of roasted barley, from some resemblance with rosemary's dried capsule.

Cactus Cactaceae- Greek name for a spiny, edible plant, perhaps the *artichoke*; transferred to cacti perhaps to preserve the name.

Caesalpinia Fabaceae- for Andrea Cesalpino (1519-1603), Italian philosopher, physician, anatomist, and botanist.

Calamus Arecaceae- from Greek *kalamos* (reed), because the stems are thin and somewhat resemblance a reed.

Calceolaria Calceolariaceae- from Latin *calceolus* (slipper), for the flower's shape.

Calea Asteraceae- from Greek *kalos*, *kallos* (beautiful), for its appearance.

Calendula Asteraceae- from Latin *calendae* (calendar, first day of the month) and *-ula* (diminutive), because it blooms throughout the year.

Calla Araceae- from Greek *kallos* (cock's comb), because the red flowers recall this structure.

Callicarpa Lamiaceae- from Greek *kalos*, *kallos* (beautiful) and *karpos* (fruit), because the fruits are very attractive.

Calligonum Polygonaceae- from Greek *kalos*, *kallos* (beautiful) and *gonum* (knee), because the plant is attractive despite not having leaves, but rather articulated stems.

Callitriche Plantaginaceae- Greek name for an unknown plant used to dye hair, from *kalli* (beautiful) and *trichos* (hair); transferred to these plants apparently for their pleasing appearance.

Calophyllum Calophyllaceae- from Greek *kalli* (beautiful) and *phyllon* (leaf), for the attractive glossy green foliage.

Caltha Ranunculaceae- Latin name for a plant with yellow flowers, perhaps *Calendula*, transferred to these plants for the shape of the corolla, from Latin *caltha* (cup).

Calycanthus Calycanthaceae- from Greek *kalyx* (calyx) and *anthos* (flower), because the calyx and the petals are the same color.

Cambogia Clusiaceae- supposedly because the plant is native to Cambodia.

Camellia Theaceae- for Georg Joseph Kamel (Georgius Josephus Camellus) (1661-1706), Moravian missionary, pharmacist and botanist.

Cameraria Apocynaceae- for Joachim Camerarius (1534-1598), German physician, naturalist, and botanist.

Campanula Campanulaceae- from Latin *campana* (bell) and *-ula* (diminutive), for the shape of the corolla.

Camphorosma Amaranthaceae- from Greek *kamphora* (camphor) and *osma* (smell), for the plant's aroma.

Canarina Campanulaceae- native to the Canary Islands.

Canarium Burseraceae- from *canari*, its name in Malaysia.

Canna Cannaceae- Latin name for reeds; from Celtic *can*, *cana*, names for this type of plant (cana also means aquatic environment: the habitat of these plants).

Cannabis Cannabaceae- Latin name for hemp; from Celtic *can* (reed) and *ab* pequeño: small reed, because the stem resembles that of reeds.

Capparis Capparaceae- Latin name for the caper, from Greek *kapparis* and this from Arabic *kabar* or *kapar*.

Capraria Scrophulariaceae- From Latin *capri* (goat) and *-aria* (related), because goats eat the plant.

Capsicum Solanaceae- from Greek *kapto* (to bite), because biting the fruit produces a strong sensation.

Capura Thymelaeaceae- from *capur*, its name in Malaysia.

Cardamine Brassicaceae- from Greek *kardamine*, name for a type of cress; from *kardia* (heart) and *damas* (to dominate, subdue), for its beneficial effect on the heart.

Cardiospermum Sapindaceae- from Greek *kardia* (heart) and *sperma* (seed), because the seeds have a heart-shaped spot.

Carduus Asteraceae- Latin name for thistles, from Celtic *ard* (point), for the abundance of thorns.

Carex Cyperaceae- Latin name for sedges; from *carere* (to lack), because the upper spikes do not produce seeds (their flowers are male).

Carica Caricaceae- Latin name for a type of fig, transferred to papaya (*C. papaya*) because its leaf resembles that of the commercial fig (*Ficus carica*); Linnaeus derived it from the ancient Greek region of Caria, now in Turkey.

Carissa Apocynaceae- latinized version of its name in India.

Carlina Asteraceae- for King Charles V of the Holy Roman Empire (Charles I of Spain) (1500-1558).

Carpesium Asteraceae- from Greek *karpesium*, the name for an aromatic plant, a species of valerian; or meaning strand of straw, from the appearance of the leaves of the involucre or the outer scales of the calyx.

Carpinus Betulaceae- Latin name for hornbeams, from Celtic *car* (wood) and *pinda* (head), because the wood was used for ox yokes.

Carthamus Asteraceae- many sources derive it from its Arabic name *qurtom* (to paint), because valuable pigments were produced from the flowers; Tournefort and Linnaeus (by adoption) derive it from its Greek name meaning *to purge*, because the seeds were used to cleanse the bowel.

Carum Apiaceae- from *karon*, Greek name for caraway (*C. carvi*); from Caria, now in Turkey, where the plant was discovered and cultivated.

Caryocar Caryocaraceae- from Greek *karyon* (nut) and *kare* (head, crest), probably for the shape of the fruit and/or its nut.

Caryophyllus Myrtaceae- from *karyophyllum*, Greek name for cloves; from the Greek *karyon* (nut) and *phyllon* (leaf), because they resemble a head surrounded by leaves.

Caryota Arecaceae- from *karyotos*, Greek name for a type of cultivated date palm, transferred to these palms for the fruit; from Greek *karyon* (nut).

Cassia Fabaceae- from *kasia* o *kassia*, Greek names for several legumes.

Cassine Celastraceae- from *cassina*, name used by Florida Indians for *C. glauca* or another plant; to align it with classical languages, Linnaeus derived it from *kassyo* (to draw).

Casuarina Casuarinaceae- from *kasuari*, the Malay name for the cassowary, whose long feathers resemble the hanging branches of the tree.

Catananche Asteraceae- Latin name for Cupid's dart (*C. caerulea*), formerly used in potions to attract male interest; from Greek *katananke* (strong incentive), used by Linnaeus apparently in he sense of being effective against violence.

Catesbaea Rubiaceae- for Mark Catesby (1683-1749), English naturalist, illustrator and traveler.

Caturus Euphorbiaceae- the second part derives from Greek *oura* (tail); the first may derive from *kato* (pointing downwards) or γάτα (*cat*), in both cases for the long, bent, hanging inflorescence. *Caturus* is a synonym of *Acalypha*, whose species are known as cat's tail.

Caucalis Apiaceae- Greek name for an unknown plant in this family, used for this plant because it is small; from a Greek word meaning lying down and *kaulos* (stem).

Ceanothus Rhamnaceae- from *keanothos*, Greek name for an unknown thorny plan, transferred to these plants apparently to preserve the name.

Celastrus Celastraceae- from *kelastros*, Greek name for an unknown evergreen tree whose fruits remained on the plant until very late in the season; from *celas* (the last season).

Celosia Amaranthaceae- from Greek *keleos* (to burn), because the inflorescence looks like a flame of intense color.

Celsia Scrophulariaceae- for Olof Celsius (1670-1756), Swedish philologist, botanist and plant collector, discoverer and first patron of Linnaeus.

Celtis Cannabaceae- Latin name for the shrub called lotus (*Ziziphus lotus*).

Cenchrus Poaceae- from *kenchros*, Greek name for millet and perhaps for other similar grains.

Centaurea Asteraceae- from Greek *kentauros*, a being part man and part horse.

Centella Apiaceae- from Greek *kenteo* (to thrust, to pierce) and *-ella* (small), perhaps because of the small, pointed styles of the flower.

Centunculus Primulaceae- Latin for small patch, transferred to an unknown plant that grew on cultivated land.

Cephalanthus Rubiaceae- from Greek *kephale* (head) and *anthos* (flower), because the flowers are grouped in compact round inflorescences.

Cerastium Caryophyllaceae- from Greek *kerastis* (horned), because the fruit resembles a horn.

Ceratocarpus Amaranthaceae- from Greek *keratos* (horn) and *karpos* (fruit), because the fruit has two spines.

Ceratonia Fabaceae- from *keratonia*, Greek name for the European carob (*C. siliqua*); from *keratos* (horn), for the shape of the pod.

Ceratophyllum Ceratophyllaceae- from Greek *keratos* (horn) and *phyllon* (leaf), because the leaves resemble horns.

Cerbera Apocynaceae- from Cerberus, in Greek mythology a three-headed dog that guarded the entrance to the underworld; his bite was lethal, the plant is poisonous.

Cercis Fabaceae- from *kerkis*, Greek name for a European poplar and for the Judas tree (*C. siliquastrum*); in the latter case, for the resemblance of the pods to a weaver's shuttle; from *kerkos* (tail), due to the shape of the aforementioned object.

Cerinthe Boraginaceae- from Greek *keros* (wax) and *anthos* (flower), because it was believed that bees obtained wax from the flowers of these plants (honeyworts).

Ceropegia Apocynaceae- from Greek *keros* (wax) and *pege* (source), because the flowers recall candelabras.

Cervaria Caryophyllaceae- Latin name for an herbaceous plant used to daub arrows; or from Latin *cervus* (deer) or *cervix* (neck), the relationship to the plant being unknown.

Cestrum Solanaceae- Greek name for betony (*Stachys officinalis*), transferred to these plants apparently for the shape of the flower; from *kestron* (point, engraving tool).

Chaerophyllum Apiaceae- Greek name for chervil; from Greek *chairo* (to please, to rejoice) and *plyllon* (leaf), because the leaves have a pleasant aroma.

Chalcas Rutaceae- Greek name for chrysanthemum; from a Greek word meaning copper, coppery, because the wood has veins of that color.

Chamaerops Arecaceae- Latin name for the dwarf fan palm (*C. humilis*), from Greek *chamai* (dwarf) and *rhops* (shrub).

Chara Characeae- from Greek *chairo* (to delight), for the aquatic environment.

Cheiranthus Brassicaceae- from *keiri*, Arabic name for the plant; to bring it into line with classical languages, Linnaeus derived it from Greek *cheir* (hand) and *anthos* (flower), because the flower is attractive and was pleasant to hold.

Chelidonium Papaveraceae- from *chelidonos*, Greek name for greater celandine (*C. majus*); from *chelidon* (swallow), because the plant is said to begin flowering when the swallows arrive and finish flowering when they leave.

Chelone Plantaginaceae- a young woman who, along with her house, was turned into a turtle by Hermes.

Chenopodium Amaranthaceae- from Greek *chen* (goose) and *podos* (foot), from the resemblance of the leaf to the webbed foot of the goose.

Cherleria Caryophyllaceae- for Jean Henri Cherler (c.1570-c.1610), Swiss physician and botanist.

Chionanthus Oleaceae- from Greek *chion* (snow) and *anthos* (flower), because the flower is white.

Chironia Gentianaceae- from Chiron, a centaur who knew medicinal plants very well.

Chomelia Rubiaceae- for Pierre Jean Baptiste Chomel (1671-1740), French physician, botanist, and plant collector.

Chondrilla Asteraceae- from *condrilla*, Greek name for chicory or endive, plants of the genus *Cichorium*, transferred to this plant because its branches produce a substance that coagulates into lumps; from *chondros* (with the meaning of lump).

Chrysanthemum Asteraceae- from Greek *chrysos* (golden) and *anthos* (flower), for the color of the flower.

Chrysitrix Cyperaceae- from Greek *chrysos* (golden) and *trichos* (hair); for the color of the flower and its long thin projections.

Chrysobalanus Chrysobalanaceae- from Greek *chrysos* (golden) and *balanos* (acorn), for the shape of the fruit and its yellowish color.

Chrysocoma Asteraceae- from Greek *chrysos* (golden) and *kome* (hair, curl), for the color and appearance of the flowers.

Chrysogonum Asteraceae- from Greek *chrysos* (golden) and *gonum* (knee), because the flowers sprout from joints in the stem.

Chrysophyllum Sapotaceae- from Greek *chrysos* (golden) and *phyllon* (leaf), because the underside of the leaf is golden.

Chrysosplenium Saxifragaceae- from Greek *chrysos* (golden) and *splen* (spleen), for the color of the flowers and because the plant was used to treat the spleen.

Cicca Phyllanthaceae- perhaps from *kikkos*, Greek name for the Malay gooseberry (*Phyllanthus acidus*).

Cicer Fabaceae- Latin name for chickpea (*C. arietinum*), derived from variants of Greek and older languages.

Cichorium Asteraceae- Latinization of *chikourych*, Arabic name for common chicory (*C. intybus*); Linnaeus derived it from two Greek words meaning coming from the field, after the plant's habitat.

Cicuta Apiaceae- Latin name for the poison hemlock, a highly toxic plant from which the poison called hemlock was extracted, used to poison condemned men in ancient Greece (including Socrates).

Cimifuga Ranunculaceae- from Greek *cimex* (bed bug) and *fugo* (flee), because the odor of the plant (bugbane) kept these insects away.

Cinchona Rubiaceae- for Francisca Enriquez de Rivera, Countess of Cinchón, introduced the bark of the cinchona tree to Europe during the 17th century.

Cineraria Asteraceae- from Latin *cinereus* (ash-colored), for the color of the pilosity that covers the leaves.

Cinna Poaceae- from *kinna*, Greek name for an unknown grass from Cilicia, used for these grasses to preserve the name.

Circaea Onagraceae- from Circe, Greek goddess of magic, trapped people with her charms, like the fruit of the plant grabs with its many hooks.

Cissampelos Menispermaceae- from Greek *kissos* (ivy) and *ampelos* (vine), because it grows like the ivy and its fruits look like grapes.

Cissus Vitaceae- from Greek *kissos* (ivy), due to its climbing habit.

Cistus Cistaceae- from *kistus*, Greek name for a shrub, probably for rock roses; in turn from *kistos*, *kiste* (box, capsule), for the shape of the fruit.

Citharexylum Verbenaceae- from Greek *kithara* (lyre) and *xylon* (wood); apparently referring to fiddle-wood, the name of the tree and its wood in Jamaica.

Citrus Rutaceae- Latin name for *citron* (*C. medica*).

Clavaria Clavariaceae- from Latin clavaus (*nail*), for its appearance.

Claytonia Montiaceae- for John Clayton (c. 1695–1773), Anglo-American jurist, botanist, and plant collector, correspondent of Linnaeus.

Clematis Ranunculaceae- from *klematis*, Greek name for various climbing plants; transferred to these plants because they are climbers; from *klema* (grape-vine branch).

Cleome Cleomaceae- Latin name for an unknown plant, perhaps of the genera *Brassica* or *Sinapis*, transferred to these plants apparently because of the closed floral segments, from *kleio* (to close).

Cleonia Lamiaceae- from *kleonia*, Greek name for an unknown plant; transferred to this plant apparently to preerve it.

Clerodendrum Lamiaceae- from Greek *kleros* (luck, chance) and *dendron* (tree), apparently for the inconsistent medicinal properties of these plants.

Clethra Clethraceae- from *klethra*, Greek name for alder, transferred to this plant for the similar leaves.

Clifforttia Rosaceae- for George Clifford (1685-1760), Dutch merchant, banker and naturalist, owner of a large botanical garden described by Linnaeus in *Hortus Cliffortianus* (1738), very importat patron of Linnaeus in Holland.

Clinopodium Lamiaceae- from Greek *kline* (bed) and *podion* (foot), because the shape of the inflorescence recalls the casters of ancient beds.

Clitoria Fabaceae- from Greek *kleitoris* (clitoris), for the flower's resemblance to female genitalia.

Clusia Clusiaceae- for Carolus Clusius (1526-1609), French physician, botanist and traveller.

Clutia Peraceae- for Outgert Cluyt (Augerius Clutius) (1577-1636), Dutch physician, entomologist, botanist, and plant collector.

Clypeola Brassicaceae- from Latin *clypeus* (a round shield) and *-ola* (small), for the shape of the fruit.

Cneorum Rutaceae- from *kneorum*, Greek name for an unknown shrub with olive-like leaves; transferred to these plants because their leaves esemble those of the olive tree.

Cnicus Asteraceae- from *knekos*, Greek name for a plant with rough, thorny leaves, possibly a thistle, transferred to this plant because it is very prickly; from Greek *knaos* (to scratch), from the sensation it ptoduces.

Cochlearia Brassicaceae- from Latin *cochlea* (shell) and *-aria* (related); for the shape of the leaves.

Cocos Arecaceae- from Portuguese *coco* (head), for the shape of the seed; or from the imaginary creature (coco, cuco) that frightened children, the three depressions on the seed's surface resemble a face.

Codon Boraginaceae- from Greek *kodon* (bell), for the shape of the corolla.

Coffea Rubiaceae- From *qahwah*, Arabic name for coffee; to bring it into line with classical languages, Linnaeus derived it from Greek *kofeo* (to swell).

Coix Poaceae- Greek name for a palm, or for a reed-like plant; transferred to these grasses because their fruits resemble those of some palms and/or because of their resemblance to reeds.

Colchicum Colchicaceae- Greek name for the autumn crocus (*C. autumnalis*); this plant was supposedly abundant in the kingdom of Colchis, on the shores of the Black Sea, today in Georgia.

Coldenia Boraginaceae- for Cadwallader Colden (1688-1776), Scottish-American politician, surveyor, physician, and botanist, correspondent of Linnaeus.

Collinsonia Lamiaceae- for Peter Collinson (1694-1768), English merchant, horticulturist, and botanist.

Columnea Gesneriaceae- for Fabio Colonna (Columnius) (1567-1640), Italian naturalist and botanist.

Colutea Fabaceae- from *kolutea*, Greek name for the bladder senna (*C. arborescens*).

Comarum Rosaceae- from Greek *komaros*, one of the names for the strawberry tree (*Arbutus unedo*), transferred to these plants with somewhat similar fruits.

Cometes Caryophyllaceae- from Greek *kometes* (feathered, with long hair, comet), for the appearance of the flowers and/or the fruits.

Commelina Commelinaceae- for Jan Commelin (1629–1692), Dutch merchant and botanist; his nephew Caspar Commelin (1668–1731), physician and botanist; and a son of Caspar who died without publishing botanical works.

Conferva Confervaceae- from Latin *conferruminare* (join, weld), because it was used when joining broken bones.

Conium Apiaceae- Latin name for *hemlock* and the poison extracted from the plant; Linnaeus derived it from *konis* (powder).

Connarus Connaraceae- Greek name for an unknown tree said to have grown in Alexandria, transferred to an Asiatic tree to preserve the name.

Conocarpus Combretaceae- from Greek *konos* (cone) and *karpos* (fruit), because the fruit resembles a pine cone.

Convallaria Asparagaceae- Latin name for the lily of the valley (*C. majalis*); from Latin *convallis* (enclosed valley) and *-aria* (related), for its habitat, although it grows mostly in groves.

Convolvulus Convolvulaceae- from Latin *convolvo* (to coil) because the stem coils on other plants.

Conyza Asteraceae- from *konyza*, Greek name for fleabanes, used to repel mosquitoes, midges, fleas, and other insects; perhaps from *konis* (powder), because the ground leaves were used for the aforementioned purpose.

Copaifera Fabaceae- from *copaiba* or *coapaiba* (indigenous name for the tree) and Greek *phoros* (to have), because the tree produces copal.

Corchorus Malvaceae- from *korchorus*, Greek name for an unknown plant, transferred to this plant because it was used to cleanse the intestine; from *koreo* (to purge).

Cordia Boraginaceae- for Valerius Cordus (1515-1544), German physician and botanist.

Coreopsis Asteraceae- from Greek *koris* (insect, tick, bug) and *opsis* (similar), because the seeds resemble small ticks.

Coriandrum Apiaceae- from *koriandron*, Greek name for *coriander* (*C. sativum*); from Greek *koris* (insect, tick, bug) and *andros* (male, stamen, anther), for the unpleasant odor emanating from the leaves and the unripe fruit.

Coriaria Coriariaceae- From Latin *corium* (leather) and *-aria* (related), because the plant is rich in tannins and has been used to tan leather.

Coris Primulaceae-from *koris*, Greek name for a plant resembling St. John's wort (*Hypericum* spp.), Linnaeus relates it to *koris* (insect, tick, bug).

Corispermum Amaranthaceae- from Greek *koris* (insect, tick, bug) and *sperma* (seed), for the appearance of the seeds (these plants are called bugseeds).

Cornucopiae Poaceae- for the resemblance of the inflorescence with the horn of plenty (cornucopia); from Latin *cornu* (horn) and *copicus* (abundance).

Cornus Cornaceae- Latin name for Cornelian-cherry dogwood (*C. mas*); from Latin cornus (horn), for the hardness of the fruit and/or seed.

Cornutia Lamiaceae- for Jacques Philippe Cornut (1606-1651), French physician and botanist.

Coronilla Fabaceae- diminutive of Latin *corona*, for the inflorescence's appearance.

Corrigiola Caryophyllaceae- from Latin *corrigia* (strap, belt) and *-ola* (small), for the appearance of the creeping stems.

Cortusa Primulaceae- for Giacomo Antonio Cortuso (1513-1603), Italian traveller and botanist.

Corylus Betulaceae- from *korylus*, Greek name for hazel *(C. avellana*); from *korus* (hull), because the calyx partially covers the fruit.

Corymbium Asteraceae- from Greek *korymbos* (group, cluster), for the type of inflorescence (known as corymb).

Corypha Arecaceae- from Greek *koryphe* (apex, crown), because the leaves are grouped at the end of the trunk.

Costus Costaceae- from *koost*, Arabic name for an unknown aromatic plant.

Cotula Asteraceae- apparently from Greek *kotule* (small cup or receptacle), for the shape of the involucre or inflorescence; diminutive of *cota*, an ancient name for a species of *Anthemis.*

Cotyledon Crassulaceae- from Greek *kotyledon* (cavity, small cup), for the shape of the leaves.

Cracca Fabaceae- Latin name for a legume, perhaps a wild vetch.

Crambe Brassicaceae- from *krambe*, Greek name for a type of cabbage, possibly sea cabbage (seakale- *C. maritima*), Linnaeus derived it from a word meaning dry, after the plant's habitat.

Craniolaria Martyniaceae- from Greek *kranion* (skull) and *-aria* (related), for the shape of the fruit.

Crassula Crassulaceae- from Greek *krasson* (thick) and *-ula* (diminutive), because the leaves are thick.

Crataegus Rosaceae- from *krataigos*, Greek name for *hawthorn*; from *kratos* (strength), for the hardness of the wood.

Crateva Capparaceae- for Crateuas (Cratevas), Greek pharmacist and physician of the 1st century BCE.

Crepis Asteraceae- Greek name for an unknown plant, from *krepis* (sandal, shoe), perhaps for the shape of the fruit.

Crescentia Bignoniaceae- for Pietro de' Crescenzi (c.1223-1320), Italian jurist, agronomist, and naturalist.

Cressa Convolvulaceae- from *Kressa*, Greek name for Crete.

Crinum Amaryllidaceae- from *krinon*, Greek name for lilies; because these plants resemble lilies.

Crithmum Apiaceae- from *krithmum*, Greek name for rock samphire (*C. maritimum*).

Crocus Iridaceae- Latin name of a young Greek man who died of love for the nymph Smilax and was turned into this plant by the gods; Latin name for saffron (styles and stigmas of *C. sativus*).

Crotalaria Fabaceae- from Greek *krotalon* (castanet, rattle) and *-aria* (related), for the shape of the fruit and/or the noise produced by the seeds inside the dry pod.

Croton Euphorbiaceae- from *kroton* (tick), Greek name for the castor bean (*Ricinus communis*), because the seeds resemble recently fed ticks.

Crucianella Rubiaceae- from Latin *crux* (cross) and *-ella* (diminutive), because the leaves are opposed along the stem.

Crucita Amaranthaceae- from Latin *crux* (cross), apparently because the calyx forms a cross.

Cucubalus Cucurbitaceae- Latin name for an unknown plant, transferred to this plant because it is apparently harmful to the soil; from Greek *kakos* (bad) and *bolos* (shoot).

Cucumis Cucurbitaceae- Latin name for the cucumber, perhaps from Greek *kykyon* and Celtic *cucc* (hollow).

Cucurbita Cucurbitaceae- Latin name for a container and for the container-shaped pumpkin called gourd; possibly from Celtic *cucc* (hollow).

Cuminum Apiaceae- from Greek *kyminon*, in turn from Arabic *qamoun* or *quamoun*, names for cumin (*C. cyminum)*.

Cunonia Cunoniaceae- for Johann Christian Cuno (1708-c. 1783), German military officer, merchant, poet and botanist, correspondent of Linnaeus.

Cupania Sapindaceae- for Francesco Cupani (1657-1710), Italian naturalist and botanist.

Cupressus Cupressaceae- Latin name for the Italian or Mediterranean cypress (*C. sempervirens*); for Cyprus, where the tree is abundant; from Greek *kuo* (to produce) and *parisis* (equal), for the regularity of the branches.

Curcuma Zingiberaceae- from *kurkum*, Arabic name for turmeric (*C. longa*).

Cuscuta Convolvulaceae- Medieval Latin name for dodder, from its Arabic names *kechout*, *kusuta*, *kushuta*, *keshut* or *kuskut*.

Cyanella Tecophilaeaceae- from Greek *kyanos* (cyan) and *-ella* (diminutive), for the color of the flowers.

Cycas Cycadaceae- from *kykas*, *koikas*, Greek names for a palm; transferred to these plants, which for a long time were considered palms.

Cyclamen Primulaceae- from *kyklaminon*, Greek name for sowbread; from *kyklos* (circle, globe), for the shape of the leaves or tubers.

Cymbaria Orobanchaceae- from Greek *kymbe* (boat) and *-aria* (related), for the shape of the fruit.

Cynanchum Apocynaceae- From Greek *kyon* (dog) and *ancho* (to strangle), for the poisonous sap.

Cynara Asteraceae- Latin name for the artichoke (*C. cardunculus*); from *kyon* (dog), because the calyx segments resemble dog's teeth.

Cynoglossum Boraginaceae- from *kynoglosson*, Greek name for hound's tongue (*C. officinalis*), for the shape and/or texture of the leaf; from *kynos* (dog) and *glossa* (tongue).

Cynometra Fabaceae- from Greek *kynos* (dog) and *metra* (uterus), because the pod resembles the uterus of the female dog.

Cynomorium Cynomoriaceae- from Greek *kynos* (dog) and *morion* (penis), for the shape of the inflorescence.

Cynosurus Poaceae- from Greek *kynos* (dog) and *oura* (tail), for the shape of the inflorescence.

Cyperus Cyperaceae- from *kypeiros*, Greek name for reeds; a connection has been suggested with Kypris (Cypris), the name for Aphrodite (Venus) in Cyprus.

Cypripedium Orchidaceae- from Kypris, Greek name for Aphrodite (Venus) in Cyprus and *pedilon* (slipper, translated as *pedium* by Linnaeus), for the beauty and shape of the flower.

Cytinus Cytinaceae- from *kytinos*, Greek name for pomegranate (*Punica granatum*), for the appearance of the inflorescence.

Cytisus Fabaceae- Greek name for several woody legumes, used for these plants of the same family because their stems are woody; apparently from the Greek island of Cythnos (Kythnos), where the plant was discovered.

D

Dactylis Poaceae- from Greek *daktylos* (finger), for the shape of the inflorescence.

Dais Thymelaeaceae- Greek for torch, apparently for the inflorescence's shape.

Dalea Fabaceae- for Samuel Dale (1659-1739), English pharmacist, physician, and botanist.

Dalechampia Euphorbiaceae- for Jacques Daléchamps (1513-1588), French philologist, physician, and botanist.

Dalibardia Rosaceae- for Thomas François Dalibard (1709-1778), French physicist, naturalist, and botanist.

Daphne Thymelaeaceae- nymph turned into a laurel by Zeus, also Greek name for bay leaf (*Laurus nobilis*).

Datisca Datiscaceae- perhaps from Greek *datesis* (division), for the appearance of the foliage.

Datura Solanaceae- from *dhatura*, name for the plant in India.

Daucus Apiaceae- from *daukos*, Greek name for the carrot (*D. carota*); from *daio* (to warm), for its medicinal effect.

Decumaria Hydrangeaceae- from Latin *decimus* (tenth) and *-aria* (related), because flower parts ocurr in groups of ten.

Delima Dilleniaceae- from *delino* (to file, to scrape), because the leaves are rough and were used for scraping or polishing.

Delphinium Ranunculaceae- Greek name for larkspurs; from *delphis* (dolphin), for the similarity of some flowers with the shape of the dolphin.

Dentaria Brassicaceae- Latin name for toothworts; from *dens* (tooth), for the shape of the root.

Dialium Fabaceae- from Greek *dialyo* (to loose, to break), for the early fall of the petals; Greek name for a plant used to remove spots and warts; name for an unknown plant.

Dianthera Acanthaceae- from Greek *dis* (two) and *anthera* (anther), because the stamens seem to have two anthers.

Dianthus Caryophyllaceae- from Greek *dios* (god, divine) and *anthus* (flower), for the beauty and aroma of the flower.

Diapensia Diapensiaceae- perhaps from Greek *diapentheo* (to lament greatly), because the flowers are solitary or because the seeds do not prosper; from *dia* (through) and *pente* (five), because the corolla is divided into five lobes or petals; name of an unknown plant.

Diasperus Phyllanthaceae- from Latin *dis* (two) and *asper* (rough), the relationship with the plant being unknown.

Dictamnus Rutaceae- from *diktamnon*, Greek name for a type of oregano from the Dikti Mountains in Crete, possibly *Origanum dictamnus*, transferred to this plant for its medicinal properties.

Digitalis Plantaginaceae- from Latin *digitus* (finger), for the shape of the corolla.

Dillenia Dilleniaceae- for Johann Jacob Dillen (Dillenius) (1684-1747), German physician and botanist based in England, acquaintance and correspondent of Linnaeus.

Dioscorea Dioscoreaceae- for Pedanius Dioscorides (c.40-90), Greek physician and botanist.

Diosma Rutaceae- from Greek *dios* (god, divine) and *osma* (odor), for the pleasant aroma of the leaves, especially when crushed.

Diospyros Ebenaceae- Greek name for an unknown grass, transferred to a very different plant with edible fruit; from *dios* (god, divine) and *pyros* (grain, wheat).

Dipsacus Caprifoliaceae- from Greek *dipsa* (thirst) and *sakos* (sack), because opposite leaves grow together at the base, forming a depression that collects water.

Dipsakos is Greek for diabetes, which in one of its forms causes excessive thirst and water consumption.

Dirca Thymelaeaceae- for Dirce, wife of king Lycus of Thebes, transformed into a spring by Dionysus, the plant grows near streams.

Disandra Scrophulariaceae- apparently from Greek *dys* (difficult, uncertain) and *andros* (male, stamen, anther), because the number of anthers varies.

Dodartia Orobanchaceae- for Denis Dodart (1634-1707), French physician and botanist.

Dodecatheon Primulaceae- from *dodekatheon*, Greek name for a plant associated with the twelve main Greek gods, from *dodeka* (twelve) and *theos* (god), transferred to this plant perhaps for the number of flowers it usually produces.

Dolichos Fabaceae- Greek and Latin name for legumes with long pods, transferred to these plants apparently for their long stems.

Doronicum Asteraceae- perhaps from *doronigri*, its Arabic name.

Dorstenia- Moraceae- for Theodor Dorsten (c. 1492-c. 1552), German physician and botanist.

Draba Brassicaceae- from *drabe*, Greek name for another plant in this family, perhaps *Lepidium draba*; the term means acrid, sour, possibly because for the flavor of the leaf.

Dracaena Asparagaceae- from *drakaina* (female dragon), for the red extract called dragon's blood obtained from *D. draco*.

Dracocephalum Lamiaceae- from Greek *drakon* (dragon) and *kephale* (head), for a certain resemblance between the flower and the head of a dragon.

Dracontium Araceae- Latin name for dragonwort (*Dracunculus vulgaris*), the stem of *D. polyphyllum* is purple and has colored bumps resembling snake skin (*drakon*- snake).

Drosera Droseraceae- from Greek *droseros* (dewy), because the leaf is covered with hairs whose sticky tips resemble dew.

Drupina Acanthaceae- apparently from latin *drupa*, for the type of fruit.

Dryas Rosaceae- Greek name for nymphs associated with oak trees (*drys* in Greek), because the leaves of both plants look similar.

Drypis Caryophyllaceae- Greek name for an unknown thorny shrub, transferred to these plants because they are thorny; from Greek *drypto* (to tear), for the action of the thorns.

Duranta Verbenaceae- for Castore Durante (1529-1590), Italian poet, physician, and botanist.

E

Ebenus Fabaceae- Latin name for the ebony tree (*Diospyrus ebenum*), from its Arabic name *abnous*, transferred to another group of plants in the same family.

Echinophora Apiaceae- from Greek *echinos* (urchin) and *phoros* (to have), because the fruit has thorns.

Echinops Asteraceae- from Greek echinos (urchin) and *opsis* (similar), because the inflorescence seems to be uniformly covered with spines.

Echium Boraginaceae- from *echion*, Greek name for these plants; from *echis* (viper), apparently because the seeds resemble the head of these snakes and the plant was used to protect against their bite.

Eclipta Asteraceae- from Greek *ekleipsi* (eclipse), because the inflorescence resembles the the sun during an eclipse.

Elaeagnus Elaeagnaceae- from *heleagnos*, Greek name for a willow; from *helodes* (marshy) and *hagnos* (pure, white), for the masses of fluffy white fruits.

Elaeocarpus Elaeocarpaceae- from Greek *elaia* (olive) and *karpos* (fruit), because the fruit resembles an olive.

Elate Arecaceae- one of the Greek names for the female flower sheath of the date palm (*Phoenix dactylifera)*, transferred to another group of palms.

Elatine Elatinaceae- from *elate*, Greek name for the common or white fir (*Abies alba*), transferred to these plants with similar foliage.

Elegia Restionaceae- Latin name for a reed; or with the meaning of lamentation (elegy), for the noise these plants make when swaying in the wind.

Elephantopus Asteraceae- from Greek *elephas*, *elephantos* (elephant) and *podos* (foot), because the basal leaves resemble an elephant's footprint.

Ellisia Boraginaceae- for John Ellis (c. 1710-1776), English-Irish merchant, zoologist, and botanist, correspondent of Linnaeus.

Elymus Poaceae- Greek name for a wild rye or millet, transferred to these related grasses; from *elyo* (cover, envelop), because the leaves were used for that purpose.

Empetrum Ericaceae- from Greek *en* (on top) and *petros* (stone), for the plant's habitat.

Ephedra Ephedraceae- Greek name for mare's tail (*Hippuris*); transferred to this plant because of its resemblance and because, although it does not grow in water, it grows near it; from Greek *hydor* (water) and *epi* (above).

Epidendrum Orchidaceae- from Greek *epi* (on top) and *dendron* (tree), for its habitat.

Epigaea Lamiaceae- from the Greek epi (on top) and *gaia* (the earth), because it is a creeping plant.

Epilobium Onagraceae- from Greek (on top) and *lobos* (pod); because the petals are on the pod-shaped ovary.

Epimedium Berberidaceae- from *epimedion*, Greek name for an unknown plant, transferred to this plant apparently to preserve the name.

Equisetum Equisetaceae- from Latin *equus* (horse) and *seta* (bristle), for its resemblance to the horse's tail.

Eranthemum Acanthaceae- Greek name for an unknown plant, apparently transferred to this plant because of its flowering period; from *er* (spring) and *anthemon* (flower).

Erica Ericaceae- from *ereike*, Greek name for a heath, transferred to these plants because they were used to break bladder stones, from *ereike* (to break).

Erigeron Asteraceae- Greek and Latin name for a species of *Senecio*; apparently from *er* (early) and *geron* (old man), because the flowers wither early in spring and the surface of the achenes is whitish.

Erinus Plantaginaceae- Greek name for a plant similar to basil; from Greek *er* (spring) and *-inus* (indicating possession), because the plants flower early in the year.

Eriocaulon Eriocaulaceae- from Greek *erion* (wool) and *kaulos* (stem, branch), because the stem is woolly.

Eriocephalus Asteraceae- from Greek *erion* (wool) and *kephale* (head), because the flower head becomes woolly during seed production.

Eriophorum Cyperaceae- from Greek *erion* (wool) and *phoros* (to have), because the seeds are covered with long cottony fibers.

Ervum Fabaceae- Latin name for an unknown legume, perhaps a bitter vetch; from Celtic *erw* (tilled earth), because some of these plants are weeds.

Eryngium Apiaceae- Greek name for field eryngo (*E. campestre*), formerly used to relieve wind, from *erugo* (to belch).

Erysimum Brassicaceae- From *erysimon*, Greek name for the plant; from *erion* (to extract, to cure) or *eryomai* (help, save), for its medicinal properties.

Erythrina Fabaceae- from Greek *erythros* (red), for the color of the flower.

Erythronium Liliaceae- Greek name for an unknown plant, transferred to this plant for the color of the flower; from *erythros* (red).

Euclea Ebenaceae- from Greek *eu* (good) and *kleos* (fame, glory), apparently for its attractive evergreen foliage.

Eugenia Myrtaceae- for Prince Eugene of Savoy (1663-1736), French-born Austrian military officer.

Euonymus Celastraceae- from *euonymon*, Greek name for spindle trees; from *eu* (good) and *onoma* (name), although it is toxic.

Eupatorium Asteraceae- for King Mithriades VI of Pontus (Eupator Dionysius) (135-63 BCE).

Euphorbia Euphorbiaceae- for Euphorbus (1st century), Greek physician to King Juba II of Mauretania.

Euphrasia Orobanchaceae- Greek for joy, delight, for its ancient use in treating eye problems; the plant is known as eyebright.

Evolvulus Convolvulaceae- from Latin *e* (without) and *volvulere* (to coil); because it does not coil around vegetation.

Exacum Gentianaceae- Latin name for an herb called *centaurium*, transferred to this plant because it was used to extract poisons, from *ex* (out) and *agere* (remove).

Excoecaria Euphorbiaceae- from Latin *excaeco*, *excaecare* (to blind), because its latex irritated the eyes.

F

Fagara Rutaceae- Arabic name for an unknown aromatic plant, transferred to this plant for its aromatic leaves.

Fagonia Zygophyllaceae- for Guy Crescent Fagon (1638-1718), French chemist, physician, and botanist.

Fagus Fagaceae- Latin name for beech, from Greek *phagos* (edible), because the fruit is edible.

Ferula Apiaceae- Latin name for giant fennel (*F. communis*) and for rods used to discipline children in school, because they made a lot of noise but little damage, from *ferio* (to hit) and *-ula* (diminutive).

Festuca Poaceae- Latin name for a weed, it also means stem and straw; from Celtic *fest* (grass, food), perhaps because it was used as animal feed.

Fevillea- Cucurbitaceae- for Louis Feuillée (1660-1732), French astronomer, geographer, botanist, and plant collector.

Ficus Moraceae- Latin name for the fig (*F. carica)*.

Flagellaria Flagellariaceae- from Latin *flagellum* (flagellum, whip) and *-aria* (related), because the leaves end in long, thin tendrils.

Fontinalis Fontinalaceae- from Latin *fons*, *fontis* (fountain), because it grows in streams, fountains, wells and other similar environments.

Forsskaolea Urticaceae- for Peter Forsskål (1732-1763), Finnish-Swedish naturalist and plant collector, one of Linnaeus's apostles.

Fothergilla Hamamelidaceae- for John Fothergill (1712-1780), English physician, pharmacist, and botanist.

Fragaria Rosaceae- from *fraga*, Latin name for the strawberry; from *fragrans* (fragrant), for the aroma of the fruit.

Frankenia Frankeniaceae- for Johannes Franck (Frankenius) (1590-1661), Swedish physician and botanist.

Fraxinus Oleaceae- Latin name for the ash tree; Linnaeus derived it from *phraxis* (separation), apparently because it is used in hedges.

Fritillaria Liliaceae- from Latin *fritillus* (dice box), because the pattern of spots on the corolla resembles the pattern of holes in these boxes.

Fuchsia Onagraceae- for Leonhart Fuchs (1501-1566), German physician and botanist.

Fucus Fucaceae- from *phukos*, Greek name for seaweeds.

Fumaria Papaveraceae- medieval name for common fumitory (*F. officinalis*); from Latin *fumus* (smoke) and *-aria* (related), apparently for the appearance of the flowering plant.

Fusanus Santalaceae- from *fusain*, French name for the spindle tree, transferred to this plant with similar leaves and fruit.

G

Galanthus Amaryllidaceae- from Greek *gala* (milk) and *anthos* (flower), because the flowers are white.

Galax Diapensiaceae- from Greek *gala* (milk), probably because the flowers are white.

Galega Fabaceae- from Greek *gala* (milk) and *ega* (bring out, provoke) or *aigos* (goat), because consuming it supposedly increased milk production.

Galenia Aizoaceae- for Galen (Galen of Pergamon) (c. 130-c.200), Greek-Roman philosopher, physician, and naturalist.

Galeopsis Lamiaceae- Latin name for a type of nettle; transferred to these plants because of some resemblance of the flower with the mouth of a cat or weasel, from *gale* (weasel) and *opsis* (similar).

Galium Rubiaceae- Greek name for lady's bedstraw, so named because it was used to curdle milk or color cheese, from *gala* (milk).

Garcinia Clusiaceae- for Laurent Garcin (1683–1752), Swiss surgeon, botanist, and plant collector; and for García de Orta (c. 1501–1568), Portuguese physician, naturalist, and explorer.

Garidella Ranunculaceae- for Pierre Joseph Garidel (1658-1737), French physician and botanist.

Gaultheria Ericaceae- for Jean François Gauthier (Gaulthier) (1708-1756), French physician and naturalist in Quebec, Canada.

Gaura Onagraceae- from Greek *gauros* (splendid, magnificent), for the appearance of the flowers.

Genipa Rubiaceae- from *jenipa*, *jenipaba* or a similar name for the plant in Brazil.

Genista Fabaceae- Latin name for the plants called brooms, belonging to this and related genera; apparently from Celtic *gen* (small shrub).

Gentiana Gentianaceae- for Gentius, king of Iliria (?-168 BCE), who discovered the medicinal qualities of the root of *G. lutea*.

Geranium Geraniaceae- from *geranos*, Greek name for cranes, because the fruit has a long, crane-like beak.

Gerardia Acanthaceae- for John Gerard (c.1545-1612), English surgeon, gardener, and botanist.

Gerbera Asteraceae- for Traugott Gerber (1710-1743), German-Russian physician, botanist, and plant collector.

Geropogon Asteraceae- from Greek *geron* (old man) and *pogon* (beard), because the pappus disc has many long white hairs.

Gesneria Gesneriaceae- for Conrad Gesner (Gessner) (1516-1565), Swiss physician, naturalist, and botanist.

Gethyllis Amaryllidaceae- diminutive of Greek *gethyon* (bulb), used for a type of onion or leek; from *getheo* (to rejoice) and *-ullus* (diminutive), for the pleasant aroma of the flowers.

Geum Rosaceae- Latin name for St. Benedict's herb (herb Bennet - *G. urbanum*); from Greek *geyo* (to impart a pleasant flavor), because the roots are used to flavor some foods and drinks.

Ginkgo Ginkgoaceae- from *ginkyo*, Japanese name for the tree; from *gin* (silver) and *kyo* (apricot).

Gisekia Gisekiaceae- for Paul Dietrich Giseke (1741-1796), German physician and botanist, pupil and friend of Linnaeus.

Glabraria Malvaceae- from Latin *glaber* (smooth) and *-aria* (related), apparently because the leaves and/or the wood are very smooth and soft.

Gladiolus Iridaceae- Latin name for the small sword used by gladiators, for the shape of the blade.

Glaux Primulaceae- Greek name for an unknown plant with greyish-green foliage that grew near the sea, from *glaukos* (grey), transferred to this plant because it grows near the sea.

Glechoma Lamiaceae- from *glechon*, Greek name for a type of mint, perhaps *Mentha pulegium*, transferred to these plants of the same family because their leaves are also aromatic.

Glinus Molluginaceae- Greek name for a plant with sweet sap (probably a maple), the relationship to this plant being unknown.

Globba Zingiberaceae- from *galoba*, Indonesian name for the plant.

Globularia Plantaginaceae- from Latin *globulus*, diminutive of *globus* (globe, sphere) and *-aria* (related), for the shape of the inflorescence.

Gloriosa Colchicaceae- from Latin *gloriosus* (glorious), because the flowers are very attractive.

Gluta Anacardiaceae- from Greek gluten (*glue*), because the petals are joined in a column on the fruit.

Glycine Fabaceae- from Greek *glykys* (sweet), for the flavor of the leaves, fruit and/or roots.

Glycyrrhiza Fabaceae- from *glukurrhiza*, Greek name for the root of this plant; from *glykys* (sweet) and *rhiza* (root), for the flavor of the roots.

Gmelina Lamiaceae- for Johann Georg Gmelin (1709-1755), German physician, botanist, and plant collector.

Gnaphalium Asteraceae- from Greek *gnaphallion* (soft down), for the woolly covering of the leaf and its resemblance to fibers used for pillows.

Gnetum Gnetaceae- from *gnemon*, name of the tree in Ternate, Indonesia.

Gnidia Thymelaeaceae- from Knidos, an ancient Greek city in Caria, now in Turkey, where a type of daphne or laurel grew; from *gnidia*, an ancient name for the laurel.

Gomphrena Amaranthaceae- Greek name for a type of amaranth, probably *Amaranthus tricolor*, transferred to these plants apparently for the appearance of the flowering plant; from Greek *gomphus* (peg).

Gorteria Asteraceae- for David de Gorter (1717-1783), Dutch physician, botanist, and plant collector, friend of Linnaeus.

Gossypium Malvaceae- Greek name for cotton, possibly from Arabic *goz* (silky).

Gratiola Plantaginaceae- from Latin *gratia* (grace) and *-ola* (small), for its positive medicinal effects.

Grewia Malvaceae- for Nehemiah Grew (1641-1712), English physician, microscopist, and botanist.

Grias Lecythidaceae- Latin name for an unknown plant growing in Italy, transferred to a group of American plants; from Greek *graos* (to eat), because the fruit is edible.

Grielum Neuradaceae- from Greek *grelos* (old), because its leaves are somewhat greyish (hoary).

Grisleae Combretaceae- for Gabriel Grisley (fl. 1660), chemist and botanist who worked in Lisbon.

Gronovia Loasaceae- for Jan Frederik Gronovius (1686-1762), Dutch lawyer, senator, and botanist, friend and patron of Linnaeus.

Guaiacum Zygophyllaceae- from *guayacan*, Taíno name for the tree.

Guerezia Caryophyllaceae- for José Quer y Martínez (1695–1764), Spanish military surgeon, botanist, and plant collector. This name appears in some prints of Species Plantarum replacing *Queria*, with only one variation in the plant description. Linnaeus evidently had the same person in mind. *Queria* from Quer; *Guerezia* from Guer (Quer) and ezia from Martínez.

Guettarda Rubiaceae- for Jean Étienne Guettard (1715-1786), French physician, geologist, naturalist, and botanist.

Guilandina Fabaceae- for Melchior Wieland (Guilandinus) (c.1520-1589), German physician, botanist, and plant collector.

Gundelia Asteraceae- for Andreas von Gundelsheimer (1668-1715), German physician and botanist.

Gunnera Gunneraceae- for Johan Ernst Gunner (1718-1773), Norewegian zoologist and botanist.

Gustavia Lecythidaceae- for King Gustav III of Sweden (1746-1792), patron of Linnaeus and his son.

Gypsophila Caryophyllaceae- from Greek *gypsos* (plaster, gypsum) and *philos* (love, affinity), because the plant grows in calcareous soils.

H

Haemanthus Amaryllidaceae- from Greek *haima* (blood) and *anthos* (flower), for the color of the flower.

Haematoxylum Fabaceae- from Greek *haimatos* (blood) and *xylon* (wood), the red dye hematoxylin is extracted from the wood.

Halleria Stilbaceae- for Albrecht von Haller (1708-1777), Swiss physician, anatomist, physiologist, and botanist.

Hamamelis Hamamelidaceae- Greek name for a plant whose fruit resembles the pear, possibly European medlar (*Mespilus germanica*), transferred to this plant apparently because of some similarity of the fruit; from *hama* (with) and *melon* (apple), because the fruit accompanies the flower.

Hartogia Rutaceae- for Johannes Hartog (Hartogius) (c. 1663-1722), German-Dutch gardener and plant collector.

Hasselquistia Apiaceae- for Frederic Hasselquist (1722-1752), Swedish naturalist, explorer, and plant collector, one of Linnaeus's apostles.

Hebenstretia Scrophulariaceae- for Johann Ernst Hebenstreit (1703-1757), German physician and naturalist.

Hedera Araliaceae- Latin name for ivy (*Hedera* spp.), possibly from Celtic hedra (*rope*, *cord*), for its stems and climbing habit.

Hedyotis Rubiaceae- from Greek *hedys* (sweet) and *otos* (ear), apparently for the aroma and shape of the leaves.

Hedysarum Fabaceae- from *hedysaron*, Greek name for an unknown plant, perhaps a legume, wild ginger (*Asarum* spp.) or a species of *Bonaveria*, transferred to these plants because they are aromatic; from *hedys* (sweet) and *aroma* (perfume).

Heisteria Polygalaceae- for Lorenz Heister (1683-1758), German surgeon, anatomist, and botanist.

Helenium Asteraceae- for Helen of Troy, wife of Menelaus.

Helianthus Asteraceae- from Greek *helios* (sun) and *anthos* (flower), for the resemblance of the inflorescence to the sun, or because the flowers follow the sun.

Heliconia Heliconiaceae- for Mount Helicon, home of the Muses.

Helicteres Malvaceae- from Greek *heliktos* (spiral, twisted), because the fruit is shaped like a screw.

Heliocarpus Malvaceae- from Greek *helios* (sun) and *karpos* (fruit), because the fruit has many long, thin projections reminiscent of the sun's rays.

Heliophila Brassicaceae- from Greek *helios* (sun) and *philos* (affinity, love), because it grows best in very sunny places, or because the flowers open when exposed to the sun and close at night and when it is cloudy.

Heliotropium Boraginaceae- Latin name for the plants believed to revolve following the sun, from *helios* (sun) and *trope* (revolve).

Helleborus Ranunculaceae- Greek name for these plants, possibly for the lent hellebore or lenten rose (*H. orientalis*); apparently from *helein* (to wound) and *bora* (food), because they are poisonous.

Helonias Melanthiaceae- from Greek *helos* (swamp), for the plant's habitat.

Helxine Polygonaceae- Greek name for another plant, possibly a species of pellitory (*Parietaria* spp.).

Hemerocallis Asphodelaceae- from Greek *hemera* (day) and *kallos* (beauty), because the flowers are very attractive, although they only last one day.

Hemimeris Scrophulariaceae- from Greek *hemi* (half) and *meros* (fragment, part), because the flower seems to be cut, or perhaps for its bilateral symmetry.

Hemionitis Pteridaceae- from Greek *hemionos* (mule), because the plant was believed to be sterile and was used as an amulet to prevent pregnancy.

Heracleum Apiaceae- for Heraclides (c. 460-367 BCE), Greek physician, father of Hippocrates.

Hermannia Malvaceae- for Paul Hermann (1646-1695), German-Dutch physician, botanist, and plant collector.

Hermas Apiaceae- for Herma, initially a male equivalent of Aphrodite (Herma of Aphrodite), later considered the son of Hermes and Aphrodite: Hermaphroditus.

Herminium Orchidaceae- from Greek *hermin* (bed-post), for the staminode shape; for Hermes, messenger of the Olympian gods, god of commerce, roads, travelers, athletes and sports; from Latin *hermineus*, for the white color of the ermine, alluding to the whitish flowers of some species.

Hernandia Hernandiaceae- for Francisco Hernández (c.1517-1587), Spanish physician, botanist, and plant collector.

Herniaria Caryophyllaceae- from Greek *hernia* (hernia) and *-aria* (related), because the plant was used to treat that condition.

Hesperis Brassicaceae- for Hesperia, one of the Hesperides, nymphs and daughters of the night; from Greek *hespera* (vespertine), because the flowers produce their aroma during and after sunset.

Heuchera Saxifragaceae- for Johann Heinrich von Heucher (1677-1747), Austtian-German physician and botanist.

Hibiscus Malvaceae- from *hibiskos*, Greek name for a mallow, perhaps the marsh mallow (*Althaea officinalis*).

Hieracium Asteraceae- from *hierakion*, Greek name for hawkweed; from *hierax* (falcon), because falcons supposedly ate the plant to improve their vision, and because an eye ointment was prepared from the plant.

Hippia Asteraceae- for Hippias of Elis (c.443-c.394 BCE), Greek astronomer, mathematician, poet. and philosopher.

Hippocratea Celastraceae- for Hippocrates (c.460-c.370 BCE), Greek philisopher and physician, Father of Medicine.

Hippocrepis Fabaceae- from Greek *hippo* (horse) and *crepis* (shoe), for the shape of the pod.

Hippomane Euphorbiaceae- from Greek *hippo* (horse) and *mania* (fury), for the effect of consuming the leaves of a Solanaceae, perhaps *Datura stramonium*; transferred to these plants because they are very poisonous.

Hippophae Elaeagnaceae- Greek name probably for a prickly spurge (*Euphorbia* spp.), transferred to this plant because it was used to improve the condition and appearance of horses; from *hippo* (horse) and *phaos* (shine).

Hippuris Plantaginaceae- from Greek *hippo* (horse) and *oura* (tail), for the plant's appearance.

Hirtella Chrysobalanaceae- from Latin *hirtus* (hairy) and *-ella* (diminutive), because young branches are hairy.

Holcus Poaceae- from *holkos*, Greek name for a grain, perhaps barley or sorghum, transferred to this grass because it was used reputedly to remove thorns from the body; from *helko* (to extract).

Holosteum Caryophyllaceae- from *holos* (whole) and *osteon* (bone), which does not apply to the plant because it is very fragile; it has been suggested that *holosteum* was originally used for another plant, a whitish species of *Plantago*.

Hopea Symplocaceae- for John Hope (1725-1786), Scottish physician and botanist.

Hordeum Poaceae- Latin name for barley (*H. vulgare*); from *hordus* (heavy), because barley bread was heavy.

Horminum Lamiaceae- Greek name for a type of sage (*Salvia* spp.); transferred to this plant of the same family because it was used to foster love; from *hermao* (to excite).

Hottonia Primulaceae- for Pieter Hoton (Petrus Houttuyn (1648-1709), Dutch physician and botanist.

Houstonia Rubiaceae- for William Houston (Houstoun) (1695-1733), Scottish surgeon, botanist, and plant collector.

Hudsonia Cistaceae- for William Hudson (1730-1793), English pharmacist and botanist.

Hugonia Linaceae- for August Johann von Hugo (1686-1760), German physician and naturalist.

Humulus Cannabaceae- Latin name for *hops* (*H. lupulus*); from *humus* (soil, earth), because it needs good soil to grow or because it grows creeping when it lacks support.

Hura Euphorbiaceae- indigenous South American name for *H. crepitans*.

Hyacinthus Asparagaceae- Latin name for hyacinths and for the legendary Spartan prince from whose blood the first hyacinth germinated.

Hydnum Hydnaceae- from *hydnon*, Greek name for truffles; from another Greek word meaning to feed, to nourish, because they are edible.

Hydrangea Hydrangeaceae- from Greek *hydor* (water) and *angos* (jug), because the fruit is shaped like a vase.

Hydrocharis Hydrocharitaceae- from Greek *hydor* (water) and *charis* (beauty, grace), for its habitat and because it is very attractive.

Hydrocotyle Araliaceae- from Greek *hydor* (water) and *kotyle* (cavity, small cup), because the plant is aquatic and the leaf is concave.

Hydrolea Hydroleaceae- from Greek *hydor* (water) and *elaia* (olive, olive tree); because it grows in wetlands and its leaves resemble those of the olive tree.

Hydrophyllum Boraginaceae- from Greek *hydor* (water) and *phyllon* (leaf), because the plant lives in humid places.

Hymenaea Fabaceae- for Hymen, Greek god of marriage; for the twin leaves, one the image of the other.

Hyobanche Orobanchaceae- from Greek *hys* (pig) and *anchein* (to strangle), apparently because this parasitic plant ends up "strangling" its host plant.

Hyoscyamus Solanaceae- Greek name for *henbane*; from *hys* (pig) and *kyanos* (bean), because pigs feed on the fruit, or on the contrary, because the plant is poisonous.

Hyoseris Asteraceae- from Greek *hys* (pig) and *seris* (a type of chicory), because the plant has been used to feed pigs.

Hypecoum Papaveraceae- from *hypecoon*, Greek name for the plant; from *hypecheo* (rattling), for the sound of the seeds inside the pod.

Hypericum Hypericaceae- Greek name for St. John's wort (*H. perforatum*); from *hyper* (above) and *eikon* (image), because the plant was placed on top of images to ward off evil spirits.

Hypnum Hypnaceae- from *hypnon*, Greek name for an unknown bryophyte, probably a moss.

Hypochaeris Asteraceae- from Greek *hypo* (underneath) and *khaeris* (young pig), because these animals eagerly eat the roots of the plant.

Hypoxis Hypoxidaceae- From Greek *hypo* (below) and *oxis* (sharp, bitter), perhaps for the shape and position of the leaves, or their acidic taste.

Hyssopus Lamiaceae- from *hyssopos*, Greek name for hyssop (*H. officinalis*); from Hebrew *ezob*, name for a type of oregano, probably *Origanum maru*.

I

Iberis Brassicaceae- Greek name for a plant of Iberia, for the Iberian Peninsula or the ancient kingdom of Iberia, today mostly in the Republic of Georgia.

Ilex Aquifoliaceae- Latin name for holm oak (*Quercus ilex*), transferred to holly because of a certain similarity of the leaves.

Illecebrum Caryophyllaceae- from Latin *illecebra* (attractive, charming), apparently because the plant in bloom is attractive.

Illicium Schizandraceae- Latin for to attract, induce, seduce; for the aroma of the eaves, flowers, and fruits.

Impatiens Balsaminaceae- Latin for impatient, because the fruit opens suddenly and forcefully to disperse the seeds.

Imperatoria Apiaceae- from Latin *imperator* (commander), for to the power of the root as a medicine or in another use.

Indigofera Fabaceae- from Latin *indigo* (indigo) and *fero* (to possess), because the plant produces this pigment.

Inula Asteraceae- Latin name for the plant; from Greek *inaein* (to cleanse), apparently due to its medicinal uses.

Ipomoea Convolvulaceae- from Greek *ips* (worm, caterpillar) and *homios* (similar), for the sinuous stems or the shape of the bud.

Iris Iridaceae- messenger of the Olympian gods, goddess of the arc of light (rainbow) that joins heaven and earth, one of the goddesses of the sea and the sky.

Isatis Brassicaceae- Greek name for *I. tinctoria*, from which a blue pigment used to dye leather was extracted; from *isazo* (to even out), because it was used to remove skin imperfections.

Ischaemum Poaceae- from Greek *ischo* (stop, limit) and *haima* (blood), because the spikelets or the seeds were used to stop bleeding.

Isnardia Onagraceae- for Antoine Tristan Danty d'Isnard (1663-1743), French physician, botanist, and plant collector.

Isoetes Isoetaceae- Latin name for an unknown plant with similar appearance year-round, transferred to this plant for the same reason, from *isos* (same) and *etos* (year).

Isopyrum Ranunculaceae- Greek name for a plant similar to *Nigella sativa*; transferred to this plant because the fruits are similar and the seeds are also black, from Greek *isos* (same) and *pyros* (wheat- referring to the seed).

Itea Iteaceae- Greek name for willow, apparently transferred to this plant because of its similar foliage and habitat.

Iva Asteraceae- ancient name for a medicinal plant called *ajuga*, transferred to this plant for its similar aroma.

Ixora Rubiaceae- deity of the Malabar coast, corresponding to Ishvara, god or supreme being of Hinduism. Burkhardt indicates that *Ixora* is probably the phonetic rendering of the Malay name in Portuguese by Henrik Adriaan van Rheede tot Draakensteen, whose *Hortus Malabaricus* was used by Linnaeus.

J

Jacquinia Primulaceae- for Nicolaus Joseph von Jacquin (1727-1817), Austrian physician, botanist, and plant collector.

Jambolifera Rutaceae- from *jambol*, *jambu*, *jamboli* or *jambalon*- names for the fruit of *Syzygium cumini* (Malabar plum- Myrtaceae) in India and Malaysia, and from Greek *phoros* (to have).

Jasione Campanulaceae- from Iason, son of Zeus and the pleiad Electra.

Jasminum Oleaceae- from Persian *yasmin* or *yasamin*, names for this plant; Linnaeus derived it from *ion* (violet) and *osme* (smell), for the aroma of the flowers.

Jatropha Euphorbiaceae- from Greek *iatros* (physician, medicine) and *trophe* (food), for its medicinal properties.

Juglans Juglandaceae- apparently from *jovis glans* (*jovis*- god, *glans*- nut), for the exquisite taste of walnut (*J. regia*); it has been suggested that the name refers to God's genitals.

Juncus Juncaceae- Latin name for *rushes*; from *jungere* (to bind), because the stems were used to make rope.

Jungermannia Jungermanniaceae- for Ludwig Jungermann (1572-1653), German physician and botanist.

Juniperus Cupressaceae- Latin name for Juniper; from Celtic *ieneprus* (rough, coarse), because the leaves end in thorns; from Latin *iunio* (young) and *parere* (to produce), because some of the bushes are evergreen, or because they produce new fruit as the old ones ripen.

Jussiaea Onagraceae- for brothers Antoine de Jussieu (1686-1758), Bernard de Jussieu (1699-1777) and Joseph de Jussieu (1704-1779), French physicians and botanists.

Justicia Acanthaceae- for James Justice (1698-1763), Scottish gardener and horticulturist.

K

Kaempferia Zingiberaceae- for Engelbert Kaempfer (1651-1716), German physician, naturalist, and traveler.

Kalmia Ericaceae- for Pehr (Peter) Kalm (1716-1779), Swedish-Finnish naturalist, botanist and plant collector, one of Linnaeus's apostles.

Kiggelaria Achariaceae- for Franz Kiggelaer (1648-1722), Dutch gardener, pharmacist, botanist, and plant collector.

Kleinhovia Malvaceae- for Christiaan Kleynhoff (?-1777), German-Dutch physician, horticulturist, and plant collector.

Knautia Capriofilaceae- for Christian Knaut (1656-1716), German physician and botanist.

Knoxia Rubiaceae- for Robert Knox (1641-1720), English navigator.

Koenigia Polygonaceae- for Johann Gerhard König (1728-1785), German physician, botanist, and plant collector.

Kuhnia Asteraceae- for Adam Kuhn (1741-1817), American physician, botanist, and plant collector, pupil of Linnaeus.

L

Lachnaea Thymelaeaceae- from Greek *lachne* (wool), because the base of the flower is woolly.

Lactuca Asteraceae- Latin name for lettuce; from *lac* (milk), because the stem has white latex.

Lagerstroemia Lythraceae- for Magnus Lagerström (1691-1759), Swedish merchant and naturalist.

Lagoecia Apiaceae- from Greek *lagos* (hare) and *oikos* (house), by analogy between the hairs of the hare and those covering the involucre that protects the seeds.

Lagurus Poaceae- from Greek *lagos* (hare) and *oura* (tail), for the resemblance of the inflorescence to a hare's tail.

Lamium Lamiaceae- Latin name for dead nettles (*Lamium* spp.); from Lamia, a daugther of Poseidon who turned into a child-eating monster after her child was killed by the goddess Hera.

Lantana Verbenaceae- Latin name for *Viburnum lantana* (Adoxaceae), transferred to these plants because of their resemblance; from *lentor* (flexibility), alluding to the branches.

Lapsana Asteraceae- from *lapsane*, Latin name for a herb with medicinal properties, transferred to these plants because they were used as a purgative, from *lapsano* (purge, drain).

Laserpitium Apiaceae- Latin name for a plant also called *silphium*, from which a substance or latex was extracted; from *laser* (gum) and *pix* (pitch, tar).

Lathraea Orobanchaceae- from Greek *lathraios* (clandestine, hidden), because it is an underground parasitic plant.

Lathyrus Fabaceae- from *lathyros*, Greek name for the pea; from Greek *la-* (augmentative) and *thouros* (to warm, excite), for its ancient use as an aphrodisiac.

Laugeria Rubiaceae- for Robert François Laugier (1722-1793), French chemist, pharmacist, and botanist.

Laurus Lauraceae- Latin name for Bay laurel (*Laurus nobilis*); from Celtic *blaur*, *laur* (green), because the foliage is always green.

Lavandula Lamiaceae- from *lavender*, *lavanda*, *lavendre* and other European names for the plant, these in turn from Latin *lavare* (wash) and *-ula* (small), because infusions of the plant impart a pleasant aroma to clothes.

Lavatera Malvaceae- for Johann Heinrich Lavater (1611-1691), Swiss physician and naturalist, friend of Tournefort.

Lawsonia Lythraceae- for Isaac Lawson (1704-1747), Scottish physician, naturalist, and geologist.

Lechea Cistaceae- for Johan Leche (1704-1764), Swedish physician and naturalist.

Ledum Ericaceae- from *ledon*, Greek name for a species of *Cistus* (Cistaceae) that produced a resin called *ladanum* or *ledanon* (not to be confused with laudanum); Linnaeus derived it from *laedere* (harm), for its offensive odor.

Lemna Araceae- Greek name for an unknown aquatic plant, transferred to this plant because it is also aquatic; from Greek *limne* (body of water, lake).

Leontice Berberidaceae- abbreviation of its ancient name *leontopetalon*; from the Greek *leon* (lion) and *petalon* (leaf), because the leaf resembles the lion's footprint.

Leontodon Asteraceae- from Greek *leon* (lion) and *odontos* (tooth), for the shape of the indentations on the margin of the leaf.

Leonurus Lamiaceae- from Greek *leon* (lion) and *oura* (tail), because the inflorescence resembles the lion's tail.

Lepidium Brassicaceae- Latin name for garden cress (*L. sativum*) and peppergrass (*L. virginicum*); from *lepis* (scale) and *-idium* (diminutive) for the shape of the fruits.

Lerchea Rubiaceae- for Johann Jakob Lerche (1703-1780), German-Russian physician, botanist, and plant collector.

Leucadendron Proteaceae- from Greek *leukos* (white) and *dendron* (tree), because the leaves have a white woolliness.

Leucojum Amaryllidaceae- from *leukon ion* (*leukoion*), Greek name for several plants with fragrant white flowers, transferred to these plants for their violet-scented white flowers; from *leukos* (white) and *ion* (violet).

Leysera Asteraceae- for Friedrich Wilhelm von Leysser (1731-1815), German counsellor, mineralogist and botanist, correspondent of Linnaeus.

Lichen Parmeliaceae- Latin name for a skin condition that produces roughness and scabs; from Greek *leikhen*, for the apperance of the organism.

Ligusticum Apiaceae- from Greek *ligustikas*- native of Liguria, Italy.

Ligustrum Oleaceae- Latin name for privet, perhaps *L. vulgare*; from *ligare* (to tie), because its long, flexible branches were used for that purpose.

Lilium Liliaceae- Latin name for lilies; from Greek *leirion* and Celtic *li* (white), for the color of the flowers.

Limeum Limeaceae- Latin name for a poisonous plant, apparently transferred to these plants because they are toxic; from Greek *loimos* (plague, pestilence).

Limodorum Orchidaceae- Latin name for a possibly parasitic plant with red flowers; transferred to these plants because of their attractive flowers and their habitat; from Greek *leimon* (meadow) and *doron* (gift).

Limonia Rutaceae- from Arabic *limoun* or *lymoun*, name for citron or citrus fruits in general.

Limosella Scrophulariaceae- from Latin *limus* (mud) and *-ella* (small), because these plants, called mudworts, live in wet and muddy soils.

Linconia Bruniaceae- unknown meaning, perhaps for a location or person.

Linnaea Caprifoliaceae- for Carl Linnaeus (Carolus Linnaeus) (1707–1778), Swedish physician and botanist, father of modern taxonomy.

Linum Linaceae- Latin name for flax (*L. usitatissimum*); from Celtic *llin* (thread), for its use in making cloth.

Liparia Fabaceae- from Greek *liparos* (shiny, smooth), because the leaves are soft and lustrous.

Lippia Verbenaceae- for Augustin Lippi (1678-1705), French physician, botanist, and plant collector.

Liquidambar Altingiaceae- name of the fragrant resin produced by the tree, from Latin *liquidus* (liquid) and *amber* (amber).

Liriodendron Magnoliaceae- from Greek *leirion* (lily) and *dendron* (tree), because the flowers resemble lilies.

Lithospermum Boraginaceae- from Greek *lithos* (stone) and *sperma* (seed), because the shiny, hard seeds resembre pebbles.

Lobelia Campanulaceae- for Mathias de l'Obel (1538-1616), Belgian physician, botanist and plant collector.

Loeflingia Caryophyllaceae- for Pehr Löfling (Peter Loefling) (1729-1756), Swedish botanist and plant collector, one of Linnaeus's apostles.

Loeselia Polemoniaceae- for Johannes Loesel (1607-1655), German physician and botanist.

Lolium Poaceae- Latin name for a weed, possibly darnell (Eurasian ryegrass- *L. temulentum*); from *loloa*, its Celtic name.

Lonchitis Lonchitidaceae- Greek name for plants with lance-shaped structures, from *lonche*- lance; transferred to these ferns for the shape of the leaf or pinna.

Lonicera Caprifoliaceae- for Adam Lonitzer (Lonicerus) (1528-1586), German mathematician, physician and botanist.

Loranthus Loranthaceae- from Greek *loron*, *loros* (strap) and *anthos* (flower), because the linear petals resemble a barber's strap.

Lotus Fabaceae- from *Lotos*, Greek name for a variety of plants, including legumes; transferred to this plant apparently to preserve the name.

Ludwigia Onagraceae- for Christian Gottlieb Ludwig (1709-1773), German physician and botanist.

Lunaria Brassicaceae- from Greek *luna* (moon) and *-aria* (related), because the fruit resembles a full moon.

Lupinus Fabaceae-Latin name for the plant and for the wolf, because it was believed that these animals devoured or destroyed the fertility of the land.

Lychnis Caryophyllaceae- Greek name for a plant, perhaps of this genus, whose cottony leaves were used as a wick; from *lychnos* (lamp).

Lycium Solanaceae- Greek name for a plant native to Lycia (today in Turkey), perhaps European buckthorn (*Rhamnus lycioide*s).

Lycopodium Lycopodiaceae- possible Latinization of *Wolfsklauen*, name used by Tabernaemontanus for a similar plant; from Greek *lykos* (wolf) and *podion* (foot), because the branches or leaves resemble wolf claws or paws.

Lycopsis Boraginaceae- from *lykopsis*, name for a species of viper's bugloss (*Echium* sp.), transferred to these plants for some similarity between the flowers and the eye or face of a wolf; from Greek *lykos* (wolf) and *ops* (eye) or *opsis* (similar).

Lycopus Lamiaceae- from Greek *lykos* (wolf) and *pous* (foot), for some resemblance between the leaves and the footprint of a wolf.

Lysimachia Primulaceae- for Lysimachus (c.360-281 BCE), King of Thrace and Macedonia, one of Alexander the Great's generals.

Lythrum Lythraceae- from the Greek *lythron* (blood), for the color of the flowers.

M

Magnolia Magnoliaceae- for Pierre Magnol (1638-1715), French physician and botanist.

Mahernia Malvaceae- anagram of *Hermannia*, a related genus.

Malachra Malvaceae- Latin name for a Persian tree that produced a gummy resin; used for these plants for its similarity to *malacha*, Greek name for mallows.

Malope Malvaceae- Greek name for a mallow; from *malos* (tender), because the leaves are soft; from Greek *malon* (apple or other type of fruit) and *opsis* (similar).

Malpighia Malpighiaceae- for Marcello Malpighi (1628-1694), Italian physician and anatomist.

Malva Malvaceae- Latin name for mallows; from Greek *malache* (soft), for its calming, relaxing, softening action.

Mammea Calophyllaceae- from *mamei*, Taíno name for the fruit; to adapt it to classical languages, Linnaeus derived it from Latin *mamma* (breast), for the fruit's resemblance to a woman's breast.

Mandragora Solanaceae- Greek name for mandrake, from the root of which a substance used as a narcotic, aphrodisiac, and poison was produced; perhaps from *mandra* (ox stable) and *agauros* (cruel), for its effect on cattle that ate it; or a corruption of the Assyrian *nam tar ira*.

Mangifera Anacardiaceae- from *manga*, *manghi* or another similar name for the fruit in India, and *fero* (to have): having mangoes.

Manisuris Poaceae- from Greek *manos* (necklace) and *oura* (tail), because the articulated spikes look like a row of small beads.

Manulea Scrophulariaceae- From Latin *manus* (hand), for the appearance of the corolla.

Maranta Marantaceae- for Bartolomeo Maranta (1500-1571), Italian, physician and botanist.

Marcgravia Marcgraviaceae- for Georg Marckgraf (Marcgrave) (1610-1644), German naturalist, explorer, and cartographer.

Marchantia Marchantiaceae- for Nicolas Marchant (?-1678), French pharmacist, physician, and botanist.

Marrubium Lamiaceae- Latin name for the plant; from Hebrew *marrob* (sour juice), because it was used to alleviate coughing; Linnaeus derived it from the ancient village of Marruvium, now San Benedetto dei Marsi, Italy.

Marsilea Marsileaceae- for Aloysius Ferdinandus Marsilius (1658-1730), Italian military officer, diplomat, and naturalist.

Martynia Martyniaceae- for John Martyn (1699-1768), English physician and botanist.

Matricaria Asteraceae- from Latin *matrix* (womb, uterus) and *-aria* (related), because the plant was used to treat conditions of the uterus.

Matthiola Rubiaceae- doe Pietro Andrea Mattioli (Matthiolus) (1501-1577), Italian physician and botanist.

Medeola Liliaceae- for Medea, a sorceress and priestess with knowledge in medicine, and *-ola* (diminutive); for the medicinal virtues of the plant.

Medicago Fabaceae- from *medike*, Greek name for a plant (perhaps alfalfa, lucerne- *M. sativa*) introduced from the ancient region of Media, today in Iran.

Melaleuca Myrtaceae- from Greek *melas* (black) and *leukos* (white), perhaps for the color of the bark in some species.

Melampodium Asteraceae- Greek name for the black hellebore (*Helleborus niger*), transferred to these plants because the name matches the color of the stem base and roots; from *melas* (black) and *podion* (foot).

Melampyrum Orobanchaceae- from Greek *melas* (black) and *pyros* (wheat), because its use blackens bread.

Melanthium Melanthiaceae- from Greek *melas* (black) and *anthos* (flower), because over time the perianth turns dark.

Melastoma Melastomataceae- from Greek melas (*black*) and *stoma* (mouth), because the fruit blackens the mouth.

Melia Meliaceae- Greek name for manna ash (*Fraxinus ornu*s), transferred to this plant because of a certain similarity in the leaves.

Melianthus Francoaceae- from Greek *meli* (honey) and *anthos* (flower), because the flowers produce abundant nectar.

Melica Poaceae- from *melike*, Greek name for a herb; from *melica*, *meliga*, Old Italian name for sorghum; from Greek *meli* (honey) and *-ica* (pertaining to), because the stem is sweet.

Melissa Lamiaceae- Greek nymph who discovered the art of raising bees and using honey, because the plant is frequently visited by these insects.

Melittis Lamiaceae- name for bees in Attic (Greek dialect used in Attica), because the plant is very attractive to these insects.

Melochia Malvaceae- From *melochich*, Arabic name for *Corchorus olitorius*, whose leaves and fruits are eaten as vegetables; transferred to these plants perhaps because of melochia's similarity to *malacha*, Greek name for mallows.

Melothria Cucurbitaceae- from *melothron*, Greek name for a plant probably of the genus *Bryonia*, transferred to this plant for a certain similarity of the fruit.

Memecylon Melastomataceae- from *memekylon* or memaikulon, Greek name for the fruit of the European strawberry tree (*Arbutus unedo*); used for this plant because of a certain similarity of the fruit.

Menispermum Menispermaceae- from Greek *menu* (the crescent moon) and *sperma* (seed), for the shape of the seed.

Mentha Lamiaceae- from Minte (Minthe), Greek nymph turned by Persephone into a mint plant.

Mentzelia Loasaceae- for Christian Mentzel (1622-1701), German sinologist, physician, and botanist.

Menyanthes Menyanthaceae- from *menyanthos*, Greek name for a water plant; from *men* (month) and *anthos* (flower), for the duration of the flowers; from *menyein* (to reveal) and *anthos* (flower), for the sequential opening of the flowers in the inflorescence.

Mercurialis Euphorbiaceae- for Mercury, messenger of the Roman gods.

Mesembryanthemum Aizoaceae- fom Greek *mesos* (middle), *embryon* (embryo), and *anthemon* (flower), for the position of the ovary in the flower. It was initially written *Mesembrianthemum*; from *mesembria* (midday) and *anthemon* (flower), because the only species then known opened its flowers at midday.

Mespilus Rosaceae- Latin name for the medlar (*Mespilus germanica*); from Greek *mesos* (half) and *pilos* (ball), because the fruit seems to be cut in half.

Messerschmidia Boraginaceae- for Daniel Gottlieb Messerschmidt (Messerschmied) (1685-1735), German-Russian physician, naturalist, and plant collector.

Mesua Calophyllaceae- for Johannes Mesue (Yuhanna ibn Masawaih) (c. 777-c. 857), Persian physician who wrote about the properties of plants.

Michelia Magnoliaceae- for Pier (Pietro) Antonio Micheli (1679-1737), Italian botanist, mycologist, and plant collector.

Microcos Malvaceae- From Greek *mikros* (small) and *coccos* (berry, seed), because the fruit and the seed are very small.

Micropus Asteraceae- from Greek *mikros* (small) and *pous* (foot), perhaps because the base of the stem is very thin.

Milium Poaceae- Latin name for the seeds of *Panicum miliaceum*, apparently transferred to this grass because it produces many seeds; from *mille* (thousand).

Milleria Asteraceae- for Philip Miller (1691-1771), English gardener and botanist, acquaintance of Linnaeus.

Mimosa Fabaceae- from Greek *mimos* (actor, imitator), because the leaf reacts when touched.

Mimulus Phrymaceae- from Greek *mimos* (actor, imitator) and *ulus* (diminutive), because the flower resembles the face of a monkey or ape.

Mimusops Sapotaceae- from Greek *mimos* (actor, imitator) and *ops* (face), apparently because the flower resembles the face of a monkey.

Mirabilis Nyctaginaceae- Latin for marvelous, to marvel, for the great variation in flower color.

Mitchella Rubiaceae- for John Mitchell (1711-1768), American physician, geographer, botanist, and plant collector, correspondent of Linnaeus.

Mitella Saxifragaceae- from Greek *mitra* (mitre) and *-ella* (small), because the fruit resembles the cap worn by bishops.

Mitreola Loganiaceae- from Greek *mitra* (mitre) and *-ola* (small), because the fruit resembles the cap worn by bishops.

Mnium Calypogeiaceae- Greek name for mosses.

Moehringia Caryophyllaceae- for Paul Heinrich Gerhard Möhring (1710-1792), German physician, ornithologist, and botanist.

Mollugo Molluginaceae- Latin name for a plant with soft leaves, perhaps *Gallium mollugo*; transferred to these plants for the same reason, from *mollis* (soft).

Moluccella Lamiaceae- from the Moluccas Islands, location of one of the species, and *-ella* (diminutive).

Momordica Cucurbitaceae- from Latin *mordere* (to bite) because the seeds seem to have been bitten.

Monarda Lamiaceae- for Nicolas Monardes (1493-1588), Spanish physician and botanist.

Monotropa Ericaceae- from Greek *monos* (one) and *tropeo* (turn), because all the flowers turn in the same direction.

Monsonia Geraniaceae- for Anne Monson (née Vane) (1726-1776), English botanist and plant collector, correspondent of Linnaeus.

Montia Montiaceae- for Giuseppe Monti (1682-1760), Italian chemist and botanist.

Morina Caprifoliaceae- for Louis Pierre Morin (1635-1715), French physician and botanist.

Morinda Rubiaceae- from Latin *morus* (blackberry) and *indicus* (from India), because the fruit of *M. citrifolia* has some resemblance to blackberries.

Morisonia Capparaceae- for Robert Morison (1620-1683), Scottish physician and botanist.

Morus Moraceae- Latin name for the black mulberry (*M. nigra*), from Celtic *mor* (black), for the color of the ripe fruit; from Morea, Greek nymph of the mulberry tree.

Mucor Mucoraceae- Latin for moldy, from the appearance of these organisms.

Munchausia Lythraceae- Otto von Münchhausen (Otto II. Freiherr von Münchhausen) (1716-1774), German naturalist and botanist, correspondent of Linnaeus.

Muntingia Muntingiaceae- for Abraham Munting (1626-1683), Dutch physician and botanist.

Musa Musaceae- for Antonius Musa (c. 64–14 BCE), Greek physician and botanist.

Mussaenda Rubiaceae- name for the plant in Sri Lanka.

Myagrum Brassicaceae- from *myagros*, Latin name for an unknown plant, apparently transferred to these plants because they are sticky; from Greek *mya* (fly) and *agra* (to capture).

Myosotis Boraginaceae- Latin name for the plants known as forget-me-not; from Greek *mus*, *mys* (mouse), and *otos* (ear), for the shape of the leaf.

Myosurus Ranunculaceae- from Greek *mus*, *mys* (mouse) and *oura* (tail), for the appearance of the inflorescence.

Myrica Myricaceae- from *myrike*, Greek name for tamarisk (*Tamarix* spp.), used for these plants because they also grow near rivers (*myrio*- flow) or for the fragrance of the leaves (*myrike*- fragrance).

Myriophyllum Haloragaceae- Greek and Latin name for these plants, called watermilfoils; from Greek *myrios* (without number) and *phyllon* (leaf), because the leaf is divided into many segments.

Myrsine Primulaceae- nymph transformed by Athena into a myrtle tree (*Myrtus communis*).

Myrtus Myrtaceae- Greek name for *myrtle* (*M. communis*); from Greek *myron* (perfume), from the scent of the leaves.

N

Najas Hydrocharitaceae- from the naiads, nymphs of springs and other freshwater bodies; because the plant is aquatic.

Nama Boraginaceae- Greek for spring, stream; apparently because the plant prefers humid places.

Napaea Malvaceae- Greek nymphs of the mountains, groves, and ravines.

Narcissus Amaryllidaceae- from Narcissus, in Greek mythology, a young man who fell in love with himself and was transformed into the flower that bears his name; from Greek *narke*, *narkissos* (stupor), for the narcotic properties of the plant.

Nardus Poaceae- Greek name for an intensely aromatic oil produced by several plants, especially *Nardostachys jatamansi* (nard, spikenard); transferred to these non-odorous grasses maybe to preserve the name.

Nauclea Rubiaceae- from Latin *naucula* (small boat), or from *naus* (boat) and *kleio* (to close); for some resemblance of the fruit with the keel of a ship.

Nepenthes Nepenthaceae- Greek name for a plant substance capable of relieving anger, worry, and sorrow, perhaps opium; from Greek *ne* (no) and *penthes* (suffering); transferred to these plants for the calming effect that would produce encountering one in the field.

Nepeta Lamiaceae- from Nepi or Nepete, an ancient city in Italy; Latin name for an unknown aromatic plant.

Nephelium Sapindaceae- from *nephelion*, Latin name for burdock (*Arctium* spp.); transferred to these plants because the fruit resembles the burdock's inflorescence.

Nerium Apocynaceae- from Nereus, in Greek mythology the eldest son of Pontus and Gaia, father of the Nereids; Greek name for oleander (*N. oleander*), from *neros* (damp), because it grows naturally near water currents.

Neurada Neuradaceae- from Greek *neuron* (nerve, vein), possibly for the venation of the leaves.

Nicotiana Solanaceae- for Jean Nicot (1530-1600), French diplomat, introduced tobacco to France.

Nigella Ranunculaceae- from Latin *niger* (black) and *-ella* (diminutive), for the color and size of the seeds.

Nigrina Orobanchaceae- from Latin niger (*black*) and *-ina* (diminutive), because the dark red stems turn black in the dry plant.

Nitraria Nitrariaceae- From Latin *nitrum* (nitro, nitre- potassium nitrate), because the plant was found near mines of this mineral.

Nyctanthes Oleaceae- from Greek *nyktos* (night) and *anthos* (flower), because flowers open at night.

Nymphaea Nymphaeaceae- Greek name for water lilies; from *nymphaea* (nymph), Greek deities associated, among others, with bodies of water.

Nyssa Nyssaceae- from Nisa (Nysa, Nyssa), nymph who raised Dionysus, transferred to this plant because it grows in flooded soils and some nymphs are aquatic.

O

Obolaria Gentianaceae- from Greek *obol* (obolus- a round coin) and *-aria* (related), for the shape of the leaves.

Ochna Ochnaceae- Greek name for the wild pear tree, transferred to these plants because the foliage is similar.

Ocimum Lamiaceae- from *okimon*, Greek name for an aromatic plant, possibly basil (*O. basilicum*); apparently from *ozo* (smell), from the aroma of the leaves.

Oedera Asteraceae- for Georg Christian Oeder (1728-1791), German-Danish economist, physician, and botanist.

Oenanthe Apiaceae- from Greek *oinos* (wine- referring to the grape vine) and *anthos* (flower), because the flowers have a similar aroma.

Oenothera Onagraceae- Latin name for an unknown plant whose juice could cause sleep, especially when taken with wine; transferred to this plant because the name alludes to wine, from *oenos* (wine) and *thera* (picker).

Olax Olacaceae- from Greek *olax* (furrow), apparently because the bark has groove-like cracks; Linnaeus includes it in a list of names related to food, medicinal qualities and practical uses, so it could have another meaning.

Oldenlandia Rubiaceae- for Henrik Bernard Oldenland (1663-1697), German-South African physician, botanist, illustrator, and plant collector.

Olea Oleaceae- Latin name for the olive tree and its fruit; from Celtic *oleul* or *eol* (oil), the main product of the fruit.

Olyra Poaceae- Greek name for a grain, perhaps rye or a type of barley; from a Greek word meaning of lesser value, and in this sense used for this other group of grasses, because the seed produces little flour.

Omphalea Euphorbiaceae- from Greek *omphalos* (navel), for the appearance of the floral structure where the anthers are inserted.

Onoclea Onocleaceae- from Greek *onos* (container) and *kleio* (to close), because the sori are surrounded by the backward-rolled margins of the fertile leaf.

Ononis Fabaceae- Greek name for the restharrows; from *onos* (donkey) and perhaps *oneris* (delight), because donkeys are said to enjoy eating the plant.

Onopordum Asteraceae- from Greek *onos* (donkey) and *porde* (flatulence), for the effect that ingesting the plant produces in donkeys.

Onosma Boraginaceae- Greek name for *O. echioides* or for an unknown plant apparently with a pleasant smell for donkeys, from *onos* (donkey) and *osme* (smell).

Ophioglossum Ophioglossaceae- from Greek *ophis* (serpent) and *glossa* (tongue), from the sometimes bifid apex of the fertile spike.

Ophiorrhiza Rubiaceae- from Greek *ophis* (serpent) and *rhiza* (root); for the appearance of the root.

Ophioxylon Apocynaceae- from Greek *ophis* (snake) and *xylon* (wood), apparently for the shape of the stem and roots.

Ophrys Orchidaceae- Greek name for a two-leaved orchid (perhaps *Listera ovata*) used to darken eyebrows (*ophrys*- eyebrows); transferred to these plants for the arched calyx or hairy edges of the lip of some species.

Orchis Orchidaceae- testicle in Greek, for the presence of two round tubercles at the base of some orchids; for Orchis, son of a satyr and nymph, who was transformed into a plant.

Origanum Lamiaceae- Greek name for several aromatic plants, including marjoram (*O. majorana*) and oregano (*O. vulgare*); from Greek *oros* (mountain) and *ganos* (joy), for the pleasant aroma of these plants when walking in the mountains.

Ornithogalum Asparagaceae- from *ornithogalon*, Greek name for these plants, possibly for *O. umbellatum*; from Greek *ornis* (bird) and *gala* (milk), its relationship to the plant being unknown.

Ornithopus Fabaceae- from Greek *ornis* (bird) and *pous* (foot), because grouped pods resembles the toes and foot of a bird.

Orobanche Orobanchaceae- Greek name for broomrape; from Greek *orobus* (a type of vetch) and *anche* (to strangle), for the damage caused by this parasitic plant.

Orobus Fabaceae- Latin name for a vetch; from *oro* (excite) and *bous* (ox), because it was apparently excellent food for cattle.

Orontium Araceae- from *orontion*, Greek name for an aquatic plant that apparently grew in the Orontes River in Syria; transferred to this plant because it is aquatic.

Ortegia Caryophyllaceae- for José Ortega (?-1761), Spanish pharmacist, correspondent of Linnaeus.

Orvala Lamiaceae- name used by Rembert Dodoens for clary sage (*Salvia sclarea*); transferred to these plants of the same family.

Oryza Poaceae- Greek and Latin name for rice, apparently from Arabic *eruz* and this from similar names in Asia.

Osbeckia Melastomataceae- for Pehr Osbeck (1723-1805), Swedish naturalist, botanist and plant collector, one of Linnaeus's apostles.

Osmites Asteraceae- from Greek *osme* (smell, perfume), for the plant's pleasant aroma.

Osmunda Osmundaceae- from Latin *os* (bone) and *munda* (cure), because the root was used as a remedy for rickets; from *os* and *mundae* (to cleanse), because it was used to clean bones; from Osmunder, Saxon name for the Norse god Thor; from Osmundus (c. 1025), Scandinavian writer who prepared the way for the acceptance of Christianity in Scandinavia; from Osmund (flourished 758–772), an Anglo-Saxon ruler mentioned in 1765 as king in Sussex (southern England); from Bishop Osmundus, who died at Salzburg in 1099.

Osteospermum Asteraceae- from Greek *osteon* (bone) and *sperma* (seed), because the fruits (achenes) are very hard.

Osyris Santalaceae- probably from Osiris, one of the main Egyptian gods, the name was used by Dioscorides; Greek name for an unknown shrub with long, flexible branches, transferred to this plant because its branches are similar; from Greek *oxos*, *ozos* (branch, used in the sense of branching out much).

Othonna Asteraceae- from Greek *othone* (flax), from the plant's woolly covering; Greek name for greater celandine (*Chelidonium majus*); Latin name for a plant from Syria.

Ovieda Lamiaceae- for Gonzalo Fernández de Oviedo y Valdés (1478-1557), Spanish colonizer and historian.

Oxalis Oxalidaceae- from Greek *oxys* (acid, bitter), for the strong flavor of the leaves (due to the presence of oxalic acid).

P

Paederia Rubiaceae- from Latin *paedor* (plague), for the plant's offensive odor.

Paederota Plantaginaceae- name for a thornless Acanthaceae; from two Greek words meaning child and pleasure, because the plant was used to whiten the face

and remove blemishes; Latin name for several distinct plants, including a thornless Acanthaceae, the holm oak (*Quercus ilex*), and the chervil (*Anthriscus cerefolium*).

Paeonia Paeoniaceae- from Péon (Paeon), physician of the gods in Greek mythology.

Panax Araliaceae- from Greek *panakes* and Latin *panacea* (cure for all), because the plant was used for all diseases; from *pan* (all) and *akos* (remedy).

Pancratium Amaryllidaceae- from *pankration*, Greek name for a bulbous plant; from *pan* (whole) and *kratys* (potent), for its medicinal properties; transferred to these plants because they also produce bulbs

Panicum Poaceae- Latin name for *millet*; from Latin *panis* (bread), for its use in this food.

Papaver Papaveraceae- Latin name for poppies; from Celtic *pappa* (food, milk), because the latex of the flower was added to children's food to help them sleep.

Parietaria Urticaceae- Latin name for the plant; from *paries* (wall) and *-aria* (related), because it often grows on damp walls.

Paris Melanthiaceae- from Paris, Trojan prince in Greek mythology; from Latin *par* (equal), because herb-paris (*P. quadrifolia*) produces four equal leaves.

Parkinsonia Fabaceae- for John Parkinson (1567-1650), English pharmacist and botanist.

Parnassia Celastraceae- from Mount Parnassus in Greece, where in ancient times a plant called herb of Parnassus grew. Parnassus was son of Poseidon and the nymph Cleodora.

Parthenium Asteraceae- from Greek *parthenos* (virgin), apparently because the marginal flowers resemble somewhat the female genitalia.

Paspalum Poaceae- Greek name for a type of millet, used for this grass apparently for how it moves in the wind; from two Greek words meaning "all" and "to sway".

Passerina Thymelaeaceae- from Latin *passer* (sparrow), because the floral bract resembles a sparrow's beak.

Passiflora Passifloraceae- from Latin *passio* (to suffer, passion) and *flos* (flower), for symbolic equivalences between the parts of the flower and the passion of Christ.

Pastinaca Apiaceae- one of the Latin names for parsnip (*Pastinaca sativa*); from *pastinum* (planter, dibble), an instrument for making grooves in the ground, for the shape of the root.

Patagonula Boraginaceae- from Patagonia, where the plant lives, and *-ula* (diminutive).

Paullinia Sapindaceae- for Simon Paulli (1603-1680), Danish physician and botanist.

Pavetta Rubiaceae- vernacular name of the plant in Sinhalese.

Pectis Asteraceae- from Latin *pecten* (comb), for the bristles of the pappus.

Pedicularis Orobanchaceae- from Latin *pediculus* (louse), because the plant was used against lice.

Peganum Nitrariaceae- from *peganon*, Greek name for rue (*Ruta graveolens*), used for this plant for its medicinal use; perhaps from *pege* (source, stream), for its cooling effect.

Penaea Penaeaceae- for Pierre Pena (1535-1605), French physician and botanist.

Pentapetes Malvaceae- Greek name for a plant called *cinque-foil* (five leaves); used for this plant because the parts of the flower and fruit are in groups of five.

Penthorum Penthoraceae- from Greek *pentas* (five) and *horos* (border), because the fruit has five pointed sides.

Peplis Lythraceae- one of the Greek names for purslane (*Portulaca oleracea)*, transferred to this plant because of its resemblance.

Perdicium Asteraceae- from *perdikion*, Greek name for an unknown plant that was preferred by partridges (*perdix*- partridge).

Pergularia Apocynaceae- from Latin *pergula* (trellis work), apparently because these vines are suitable for such use.

Perilla Lamiaceae- Diminutive of Latin *pera* (purse, pocket), apparently for the shape of the calyx; vernacular name for the plant in India.

Periploca Apocynaceae- from Greek *peri* (around) and *ploke* (woven, twisted), for the way stems grow.

Petiveria Petiveriaceae- for James Petiver (c.1660-1718), English entomologist, pharmacist, and botanist.

Petrea Verbenaceae- for Robert James Petre (1713-1742), English horticulturist and botanist.

Peucedanum Apiaceae- from *peukedanon*, Greek name for a strong-smelling apiaceous plant, perhaps *Pastinaca sativa* or a species of *Ferula*, transferred to this plant because it smells like pine resin; from Greek *peuke* (fir, pine, spruce) and another word meaning low, small.

Phaca Fabaceae- from *phakos*, Greek name for a lentil, perhaps *Lens culinaris*, from *phagos* (to eat), from its use as food; transferred to these plants of the same family perhaps because of their resemblance.

Phalaris Poaceae- Greek name for a grass, perhaps of this genus; apparently from *phaleros* (to shine), because the grain is silvery.

Phallus Phallaceae- from Greek *phallos* (phallus, penis), for its shape.

Pharnaceum Molluginaceae- for Pharnaces II of Pontus (c. 97-47 BCE), king of the Bosporan kingdom.

Phascum Pottiaceae- from *phascon*, Greek name for an unknown moss; apparently from a Greek word meaning shine, for the capsule's appearance.

Phaseolus Fabaceae- Greek name for a type of bean, possibly of the genus *Vigna*; transferred to this similar plant because the seed is bean-shaped.

Phellandrium Apiaceae- Latin name for an unknown apiaceous plant; from a Greek word meaning cork and *andros* (male): male cork. Transferred to this plant

because (like cork, which floats), its stem floats in the aquatic environments where it grows.

Phelypaea Orobanchaceae- for French politicians and administrators Louis Phélypeaux, Marquis de Phélypeaux, Count of Pontchartrain (1643–1727) and his son Jérôme Phélypeaus, Count of Pontchartrain (1674–1747).

Philadelphus Hydrangeaceae- for Ptolemy II Philadelphus (c. 309-246 BCE), Egyptian pharaoh.

Phillyrea Oleaceae- from Greek *phyllon* (leaf), for the glossy foliage of these shrubs; from *philyra*, Greek name for two species of *Tilia*.

Phleum Poaceae- from *phleos*, Greek name for an unknown grass (reed) that grew in marshy places, transferred to these grasses apparently to preserve the name.

Phlomis Lamiaceae- Greek name probably for a species of *Verbascum*, from *phlogmos* (fire), because the leaves were used to make wicks; transferred to this plant for its similar leaves.

Phlox Polemoniaceae- Greek name for unknown plants with flame-colored flowers (*phlox*- flame), transferred to these plants for the color of the flowers.

Phoenix Arecaceae- Greek name for the date palm; perhaps from *phoinix* (Phoenician), because the palm was very common in Phoenicia.

Phryma Phrymaceae- de *phyrama*, Greek name for a lower grade of resin obtained from a North African apiaceous plant; from Greek *phrugama* (dry), because the fruit appears to be dry and falls shortly before ripening.

Phylica Rhamnaceae- from Greek *phillycos* (leafy), for the abundant foliage of these plants.

Phyllanthus Phyllanthaceae- from Greek *phyllon* (leaf) and *anthos* (flower), because flowers appear in leaf-like flat branches.

Phyllis Rubiaceae- woman in Greek mythology who killed herself for a lost love.

Physalis Solanaceae- from Greek *physa* (bladder), because the calyx swells until forming a sac that surrounds the fruit.

Phyteuma Campanulaceae- Greek name for an unknown plant with aphrodisiac powers, transferred to this plant because its roots are fortifying.

Phytolacca Phytolaccaceae- from Greek *phyton* (plant) and Latin *lacca* (crimson red), because the fruit produced a dye of that color.

Picris Asteraceae- from *pikris*, Greek name for a bitter plant, perhaps a type of lettuce, transferred to these plants because their leaves are bitter.

Pilularia Marsileaceae- from Latin *pilula* (little ball, globule, pill), for the shape of the sporocarps.

Pimpinella Apiaceae- from *bipennula*, because the leaves are bipinnate, and *-ella* (diminutive).

Pinguicula Lentibulariaceae- from Latin *pinguedo* (fat) and *-ula* (diminutive), because the surface of the leaf is greasy and sticky.

Pinus Pinaceae- Latin name for pines; from *picnus* (resin, pitch resin), for the resin these trees produce; from Celtic *pin* (rock, mountain), for the habitat of many species.

Piper Piperaceae- Latin name for pepper (*P. nigrum*); from Greek peperi and in turn from Sanskrit *pippali*.

Piscidia Fabaceae- from Latin *pisces* (fish) and *caedo* (to kill), because the bark was used to stun fish.

Pisonia Nyctaginaceae- for Willem Pies (Piso) (1611-1678), Dutch physician and naturalist.

Pistacia Anarcadiaceae- Latin name for pistachio (*P. vera*); from Greek *pistake* and this in turn from Arabic *foustaq*.

Pistia Araceae- from Greek *pistos* (aquatic), because it grows in canals and other bodies of water.

Pisum Fabaceae- Latin name for the pea, from Celtic *pis*.

Plantago Plantaginaceae- Latin name for plantains; from *planta* (plant) and *tangere* (to touch): plant for touching.

Platanus Platanacee- from *platanos*, Greek name for sycamore (Old World sycamore, Oriental plane - *P. orientalis*); from *platys* (wide, flat, broad), for the shape and size of the leaves.

Plectronia Penaeaceae- from Greek *plektron* (spur), for the thorny branches.

Plinia Myrtaceae- for Pliny the Elder (Gaius Plinius Secundus) (c.23-79), Roman military officer, proconsul and naturalist.

Plukenetia Euphorbiaceae- for Leonard Plukenet (1642-1706), English physician and botanist.

Plumbago Plumbaginaceae- Greek name for a plant used to treat cataracts, which turn the eye gray; from *plumbum*- lead.

Plumeria Apocynaceae- for Charles Plumier (1646-1704), French botanist.

Poa Poaceae- Greek name for grasses and grass pastures.

Podophylum Berberidaceae- abbreviation of *Anapodophyllum*, used first by Mark Catesby; from Latin *anas* (duck), *podos* (foot), and *phyllon* (leaf), because the leaf is foot-shaped.

Poinciana Fabaceae- for Philippe de Longvilliers de Poincy (Poinci) (1583-1660), French nobleman and patron of botany.

Polemonium Polemoniaceae- from Latin *polemos* (war), because several kings disputed the discovery of its properties; from *polemonion*, Greek name for a medicinal plant associated with Polemon I or Polemon II, kings of territories near Greece; ancient name for the plant.

Polianthes Asparagaceae- from Greek *polis* (city, town) and *anthos* (flower), because the flowers were popular in towns for their aroma and beauty.

Polycnemum Amaranthaceae- from Greek *polys* (much) and *kneme* (shin), for the number and appearance of the leaves.

Polygala Polygalaceae- from *polygalon*, Greek name for milkwort (*P. vulgaris*); from *polys* (much) and *gala* (milk), because wet nurses who consumed it supposedly produced more milk.

Polygonum Polygonaceae- from Greek *polys* (much) and *gonum* (knee), because the stem has many joints and/or because the inflated joints resemble knees.

Polypodium Polypodiaceae- from Greek *polys* (much) and *podos* (foot), because the rhizome has many branches.

Polypremum Tetrachondraceae- from Greek *polys* (much) and *premnon* (stem), because the plant produces many stems.

Polytrichum Polytrichaceae- from Greek *polys* (much) and *trichos* (hair), because the calyptra is hairy.

Pontederia Pontederiaceae- for Giulio Pontedera (1688-1757), Italian physician, botanist, and plant collector.

Populus Salicaceae- Latin name for poplar, also meaning people: people's tree, because it was commonly planted in public places.

Porella Porellaceae- from Latin *porus* (pore) and *-ella* (diminutive), for the presence of pores in the seeds (the capsules of this liverwort were considered seeds).

Portulaca Portulacaceae- Latin name for purslane; Linnaeus derived it from *portula* (small door), for the plant's laxative properties; others derive it from *porto*, *portare* (to carry), and *lac* (milk), for its sap.

Potamogeton Potamogetonaceae- from Greek *potamos* (river) and *geiton* (neighbor), because the plant is aquatic.

Potentilla Rosaceae- diminutive of Latin *potens* (powerful), for the potency of its medicinal effect.

Poterium Rosaceae- from Greek *poterion* (cup), because leaves of a plant (perhaps *P. sanguisorba*) were placed in cups to improve the flavor of the drink, or to impart a medicinal effect.

Pothos Araceae- from *potha*, a vernacular name in Sinhalese; to bring it into line with classical languages, Linnaeus derived it from Greek *potho* (desire).

Prasium Lamiaceae- Latin name for horehound (*Marrubium vulgare*), transferred to this plant perhaps because they resemble each other.

Premna Lamiaceae- from Greek *premnion* (stump), because the tree is small.

Prenanthes Asteraceae- from Greek *prenes* (drooping) and *anthos* (flower), because the flowers look down.

Primula Primulaceae- from the medieval name *primula veris*, used for a daisy that bloomed early in spring; transferred to this plant for the same reason, from primus (*first*) and *-ula* (diminutive).

Prinos Aquifoliaceae- Greek name for hollies, possibly *Ilex aquifolium*; transferred to these plants because leaf margin has a saw-like appearance, from *prion* (saw).

Proserpinaca Haloragaceae- Latin name for an unknown plant; from *proserpo* (to creep), apparently because of the way the root grows.

Prosopis Fabaceae- Greek name for burdock (*Carduus personata*), the name also means mask, the relationship to the plant being unknown; transferred to these plants apparently to preserve the name.

Protea Proteaceae- for Proteus, a sea god, eldest son of Poseidon, had the power to assume different forms.

Prunella Lamiaceae- variant of *brunella*, Latin name for self-heal, heal-all), used to treat several conditions, including a tonsil infection called quinsy; from German *braune* (quinsy) and *-ella* (diminutive).

Prunus Rosaceae- Latin name for plum; from Greek *prune*, whose origin has been lost to time.

Psidium Myrtaceae- Greek name for pomegranate (*Punica granatum*), transferred to guava (*Psidium guajaba*) perhaps because it also has many small seeds.

Psoralea Fabacee- from Greek *psoralos* (scabby, crusty), because the plant has many glandular dots.

Psychotria Rubiaceae- from *psychotrophon*, Greek name for a plant (perhaps betony) that lives in cold places; from *psychotrophus* (sustaining life), for its medicinal qualities.

Ptelea Rutaceae- Greek name for elm (*Ulmus*), transferred to these plants because the fruits look similar.

Pteris Pteridaceae- Greek name for ferns; from *pteris* (wing, feather), for the shape of the leaf.

Pterocarpus Fabaceae- from Greek *pteron* (wing) and *karpos* (fruit), because the fruit is surrounded by a membranous extension or wing.

Pteronia Asteraceae- from Greek *pteron* (wing), apparently because the seed is winged.

Pubeta Rubiaceae- from Latin *pubes* (hair), because the fruit is hairy (*fructus pubescens*).

Pulmonaria Boraginacee- from Latin *pulmo* (lung) and *-aria* (related), because the plant was used for lung conditions.

Punica Lythraceae- from *malum punicum* (Carthage apple), Latin name for the pomegranate (*P. granatum*); from *punicus* (Carthaginian); from *puniceus* (scarlet), for the color of the flowers.

Pyrola Ericaceae- from *pyrus* (Latin name for pear) and *-ola* (small), because the leaves are pear-shaped.

Pyrus Rosaceae- Latin name for the pear (*Pyrus* spp.), from its Celtic name *peren*.

Q

Quassia Simaroubaceae- for Graman Quassi (c. 1690-1780), African herbalist and healer in Surinam, first reported the use of *Q. amara* against fever.

Quercus Fagaceae- Latin name for oak (*Quercus* spp.); from Celtic *quer* (beautiful) and *cuez* (tree).

Queria Caryophyllaceae- for José Quer y Martínez (1695-1764), Spanish military surgeon, botanist, and plant collector.

Quisqualis Combretaceae- from *udani*, Malay name for the plant, translated by Rumphius into Dutch as *hoedanig* (how, what) and then into Latin as *quis* (which)

and *qualis* (what), apparently showing surprise at the plant's variability, perhaps because the flowers change color during the day.

R

Rajania Dioscoreaceae- for John Ray (Joannes Rajus) (1627-1705), English naturalist and botanist.

Randia Rubiaceae- for Isaac Rand (1674-1743), English gardener, pharmacist, and botanist.

Ranunculus Ranunculaceae- from Latin *rana* (frog) and *-ula* (diminutive), because the plant commonly grows in humid places.

Raphanus Brassicaceae- Greek name for radish (*R. sativus*); from *ra* (quickly) and *phainomai* (to appear), because the seeds germinate rapidly.

Rauvolfia Apocynaceae- for Leonhard Rauwolf (1535-1596), German physician, botanist, and plant collector.

Reaumuria Tamaricaceae- for René Antoine Ferchault de Réamur (1683-1757), French naturalist.

Renealmia Bromeliaceae- for Paul Reneaulme (1560-1624), French physician, botanist, and plant collector.

Reseda Resedaceae- Latin name for the plant; from *resedare* (relieve, soothe), for its effect on pain.

Restio Restionaceae- from Latin *restis* (rope, cord), because the plant was used to make rope.

Rhamnus Rhamnaceae- Greek name for buckthorns (*Rhamnus* sp.); from *rhamnos* (tuft, group). apparently alluding to the branches.

Rheedia Clusiaceae- for Hendrik van Rheede (1636-1691), Dutch colonial adminstrator and botanist.

Rheum Polygonaceae- from *rheon* or *rha*, Greek name for the roots and rhizomes of rhubarb imported from Iran, possibly from the Iranian *rewas*; from *rha*, Greek

name for the Volga River, along which rhubarb grew; Linnaeus derived it from *rheo* (to flow), because the plant was used to make bile flow.

Rhexia Melastomataceae- Greek name for an unknown plant, transferred to this plant because it was used to treat hernias; from *rhexis* (rupture- referring to a hernia).

Rhinanthus Orobanchaceae- from Greek *rhinos* (snout, nose) and *anthos* (flower), for the shape of the corolla.

Rhizophora Rhizophoraceae- from Greek *rhiza* (root) and *phoros* (to have), for the aerial roots.

Rhodiola Crassulaceae- from Greek *rhodon* (rose) and *-ola* (small), because the roots smell like roses.

Rhododendron Ericaceae- from Greek *rhodon* (rose) and *dendron* (tree), for the color of the flowers.

Rhodora Ericaceae- from Greek *rhodon* (rose), for the color of the flowers.

Rhus Anarcadiaceae- Greek name for sumac (*R. coriaria*); from Greek *rous* and in turn from Celtic *rhudd* (red), for the color of the fruit.

Ribes Grossulariaceae- possibly from Arabic *ribas* (sour), for the flavor of the fruit.

Ribesioides Primulaceae- from *Ribes* and *-oides* (similar).

Riccia Ricciaceae- for Pietro Francesco Ricci (1690-1751), Italian senator, member of the Botanical Society of Florence, patron of Pier Antonio Micheli.

Richardia Rubiaceae- for Richard Richardson (1663-1741), English antiquarian, physician, and botanist.

Ricinus Euphorbiaceae- Latin for tick, because the seeds of the castor bean (castor oil plant- *R. communis*) resemble freshly fed ticks.

Ricotia Brassicaceae- for Paul Rycaut (1629-1700), English diplomat, member of the Royal Society of London, wrote in 1699 about the migration of lemmings in Lapland, Sweden.

Rivina Petiveriaceae- for Augustus Quirinus Rivinus (1652-1723), German physician and botanist.

Robinia Fabaceae- for Jean Robin (1550-1629), French gardener, pharmacist, and botanist.

Roella Campanulaceae- for Willem Röell (1700-1775), Dutch physician and botanist, acquaintance of Linnaeus.

Rondeletia Rubiaceae- for Guillaume Rondelet (1507-1566), French physician, zoologist, and botanist.

Rosa Rosaceae- Latin name for roses; from Greek *rous* (pink) and Celtic *rhudd* (red), for the color of the flowers.

Rosmarinus Lamiaceae- Latin name for rosemary; from *ros* (dew) and *marinus* (of the sea), because it grows naturally on sea cliffs.

Rotala Lythraceae- from Latin *rotalis* (like a wheel), because the leaves form whorls around the stem.

Royena Ebenaceae- for Adriaan van Royen (1704-1779), Dutch physician and botanist, friend of Linnaeus.

Rubia Rubiaceae- from Latin *ruber* (red), for a red dye obtained from the root.

Rubus Rosaceae- Latin name for blackberry; from Latin *ruber* (red), for the fruit's color before ripening.

Rudbeckia Asteraceae- for Olaus Rudbeck the Elder (1630-1702) and his son Olaus Rudbeck the Younger (1660-1740), Swedish professors in Uppsala, the latter was Linnaeus's professor.

Ruellia Acanthaceae- for Jean Ruel (de la Ruelle) (1474-1537), French physician and botanist.

Rumex Polygonaceae- Latin name for common sorrel (*R. acetosa*); perhaps from *rumo* (to suck), from the practice of sucking the leaves to quench thirst.

Ruppia Ruppiaceae- for Heinrich Bernhard Rupp (1688-1719), German physician and botanist.

Ruscus Asparagaceae- Latin name for butcher's broom (*Ruscus aculeatus*); once *bruscus*, Latinization of Celtic *beuskelen*: *beus*- box (plants of the genus *Buxus*) and *hous*- holly (plants of the genus *Ilex*), because it has characteristics of both plants.

Ruta Rutaceae- Latin name for *rue* (*R. graveolens*); also meaning bitter, for the taste of the leaves.

S

Saccharum Poaceae- from Greek *sakcharon* (sugar), in turn from Arabic *soukar*.

Sagina Caryophyllaceae- Latin for feeding, fattening, because the plant was used as fodder for farm animals.

Sagittaria Alismataceae- from Latin *sagitta* (arrow), for the shape of the leaf.

Salacia Celastraceae- Roman deity of the sea, wife of Neptune and mother of Triton; the plant frequently grows in coastal areas.

Salicornia Amaranthaceae- from Latin *sal* (salt) and *cornu* (horn); because the plant lives in swamps and brackish soils, and for the appearance of the stem and branches.

Salix Salicaceae- Latin name for the willow (*Salix* spp.); from *salire* (to jump), for its rapid growth.

Salsola Amaranthaceae- from Latin *salsus* (salty), because the plant grows in saline soils and is salty.

Salvadora Salvadoraceae- for Jaime Salvador y Pedrol (1649-1740), Spanish pharmacist and plant collector.

Salvia Lamiaceae- Latin name for sage (*S. officinalis*); from *salvus* (safe), for its medicinal qualities.

Samara Primulaceae- Latin name for the elm seed (*Ulmus* spp.), transferred to these plants although they do not produce the winged fruit called samara.

Sambucus Adoxaceae- Latin name for elder (*Sambucus* spp.), related to sambuca, a type of harp made from the wood of the tree.

Samolus Primulaceae- from Celtic *san* (healthy) and *mos* (pig), because the plant was used to treat pig diseases; Linnaeus derived the name from Samos, a Greek island, and *-ola* (diminutive).

Samyda Meliaceae- Greek name for birch (*Betula* spp.), transferred to these plants because of a certain similarity of the foliage.

Sanguinaria Papaveraceae- from Latin *sanguis* (blood) and *-aria* (related), because the sap is reddish.

Sanguisorba Rosaceae- from Latin *sanguis* (blood) and *sorbere* (to suck), because a root extract was used to stop bleeding.

Sanicula Apiaceae- from Latin *sano* (to heal) and *-ula* (diminutive), because the plant was used to heal wounds.

Santalum Santalaceae- from Arabic and Persian *shandal* and Sanskrit *shandana*, names for the tree and its wood. *Santalon* is the Greek name for the fragrant wood of these trees (sandalwood).

Santolina Asteraceae- from a region in ancient Aquitaine, near the present-day town of Saintes, southeastern France, whose inhabitants were known as santons or santoni; from *sanctum linum*, ancient name for *S. virens*, from *sanctus* (saint) and *linum* (flax), for its medicinal properties.

Sapindus Sapindaceae- from Latin *sapo* (soap) and *indicus* (from India), because the fruit of this American tree was used as soap.

Saponaria Caryophyllaceae- from Latin *sapo* (soap) and *-aria* (related), because the leaves of *S. officinalis* produce a liquid that serves as soap.

Saraca Fabaceae- from Sanskrit *sara* (colored, spotted), for its flowers.

Sarothra Hypericaceae- from Greek *sarotron* (broom, besom), for the plant's appearance.

Sarracenia Sarraceniaceae- for Michel Sarrazin (Sarracenius) (1659-1734), French physician and naturalist.

Satureja Lamiaceae- for the satyrs, spirits in Greek mythology who loved the good life and especially women; Latin name for savory (*S. hortensis*), whose leaves are reputed to be an aphrodisiac.

Satyrium Orchidaceae- from the satyrs, spirits of Greek mythology who loved the good life and especially women, often provided with horns; because the lip of the flower has two projections that resemble horns and for the purported aphrodisiac properties of the plant.

Saururus Saururaceae- from Greek *sauros* (lizard) and *oura* (tail), for the shape of the inflorescence.

Sauvagesia Ochnaceae- for François Boissier de Sauvages de Lacroix (1706-1767), French physician, naturalist and botanist, correspondent of Linnaeus.

Saxifraga Saxifragaceae- from Latin *saxum* (stone) and *frangere* (to break), because the plant grows in cracks and apparently breaks stones.

Scabiosa Dipsacaceae- from Latin *scabies* (itching), because the plant was used to treat scabies.

Scabrita Oleaceae- from Latin *scaber* (rough), because the plant is very rugous.

Scaevola Goodeniaceae- for Gaius Mucius Scaevola (6th century BCE), Roman soldier who, in order to demonstrate his bravery, placed his right hand into a fire, from then on, he was called Scaevola (from Latin *scaevus*- left-handed).

Scandix Apiaceae- Greek name for Venus' comb (shepherd's needle)- *S. pecten-veneris*).

Scheuchzeria Scheuchzeriaceae- for Johannes Gaspar Scheuchzer (1684-1738) and his brother Johann Jakob Scheuchzer (1672-1733), Swiss physicians and naturalists.

Schinus Anacardiaceae- from *schinos*, Greek name for the mastic tree (*Pistacia lentiscus*), transferred to this tree because it is also resinous; from a word meaning divide, split, because the bark must be plit for the resin to flow.

Schmidelia Sapindaceae- for Casimir Christoph Schmiedel (1718-1782), German physician and naturalist.

Schoenus Cyperaceae- Latin name for rushes (reeds); from Greek *schoinos* (rope), because the stems were used to make rope.

Schrebera Convolvulaceae- for Johann Christian Daniel von Schreber (1739-1810), German physician, zoologist, and botanist.

Schwalbea Orobanchaceae- for Georg Christian Schwalbe (1691-1761), Dutch physician and botanist.

Scilla Asparagaceae- from *skilla*, Greek name for sea squill (*Drimia maritima*); from *skillo* (to harm), because the bulbs are poisonous.

Scirpus Cyperaceae- Latin name for rushes, from Celtic *cirs* (rush); from Latin *chorda* (string), because the first ropes were made from rushes.

Scleranthus Caryophyllaceae- from Greek *skleros* (hard, dry) and *anthos* (flower), because the flower, which lacks petals, is small, hard and dry.

Scolymus Asteraceae- Latin name for the Spanish oyster plant (*S. hispanicus*); from Greek *skolos* (thorn), because the plant has many thorns.

Scoparia Plantaginaceae- from Latin *scopa* (broom) and *-aria* (related), because the plant was used to make brooms.

Scorpiurus Fabaceae- from Greek *skorpios* (scorpion) and *oura* (tail), for the shape of the pods.

Scorzonera Asteraceae- from old Italian *scorzone* (viper), because the root was used as an antidote against snake bites.

Scrophularia Scrophulariaceae- from Latin *scrofulae* (scrofula- inflammation of the neck ganglia) and *-aria* (related), because the plant was to treat this condition.

Scurrula Loranthaceae- from Latin *scurra* (mime, parasite) and *-ula* (diminutive), for the peculiar appearance of the flower and/or because it is a parasitic plant.

Scutellaria Lamiaceae- from Latin *scutellum* (small shield) and *-aria* (related), for the shape of the calyx.

Secale Poaceae- Latin name for a grain, probably rye (*Secale cereale*); from Latin *seco* (cut, reap).

Securidaca Polygalaceae- from Latin *securis* (axe), for the shape of the fruit's wing.

Sedum Crassulaceae- Latin name for several succulents; from *sedo* (to sit), because the plant grows perched on stones.

Selago Scrophulariaceae- Latin name for *Huperzia selago* (Lycopodiaceae), transferred to this plant because it was used for eye conditions; from Celtic *sel* (sight) and *jach* (healthy).

Selinum Apiaceae- from *selinon*, Greek name for several plants in this family with fragrant leaves, most notably celery and parsley, transferred to these plants that look similar; from *selene* (moon), because the seeds are crescent-shaped. Selene was the Greek goddess and personification of the moon.

Sempervivum Crassulaceae- from Latin *semper* (always) and *vivum* (alive), because the leaves are always green.

Senecio Asteraceae- Latin name for *S. vulgaris*; from *senex* (old), possibly for the appearance of the cluster of white achenes.

Septas Crassulaceae- from Latin *septem* (seven), because flower parts are in groups of seven.

Serapias Orchidaceae- for Serapis, declared by Ptolemy I official god of Egypt and Greece to culturally link both peoples.

Seriola Asteraceae- from *seris*, a name for chicory (succory- *Cichorium intybu*s) and *-ola* (diminutive), transferred to these plants of the same family for their similar leaves.

Seriphium Asteraceae- for the Greek island of Seriphos, where wormwood (absinthe- *Artemisia absintium*), a plant from the same family grew.

Serpicula Haloragaceae- from Latin *serp* (crawl, creep) and *-ula* (diminutive), because the plant is creeping.

Serratula Asteraceae- from Latin *serra* (saw) and *-ula* (diminutive), because the edge of the leaf resembles a saw.

Sesamum Pedaliaceae- Greek name for sesame (*S. indicum*); from similar names in other languages, including Akkadian *samsammu*.

Seseli Apiaceae- Greek name for an unknown plant of this family, apparently from Arabic *seycelyous*, transferred to these plants apparently to preserve the name.

Sesuvium Aizoaceae- apparently from Sesuvii, name of a tribe that lived west of the Seine.

Sherardia Rubiaceae- for William Sherard (1659-1728), English diplomat, botanist, and plant collector

Sibbaldia Rosaceae- for Robert Sibbald (1641-1722), Scottish physician and naturalist.

Sibthorpia Plantaginaceae- for Humphry Sibthorp (1713-1797), English physician and botanist.

Sicyos Cucurbitaceae- from *sikyos*, Greek name for (*Cucumis sativus*); transferred to these plants (bur cucumbers) because they look similar.

Sida Malvaceae- Greek name for an unknown aquatic plant, transferred to these plants apparently to preserve it.

Sideritis Lamiaceae- Greek name for plants used to heal wounds caused by knives, swords, spears, etc., from *sideros* (iron), used for these plants perhaps because the sepals are sword-shaped or because the base of the inflorescence has two large, pointed leaves.

Sideroxylon Sapotaceae- from Greek *sideron* (iron) and *xylon* (wood), because the wood is very hard.

Sigesbeckia Asteraceae- for Johann Georg Siegesbeck (1688-1755), German physician and botanist.

Silene Caryophyllaceae- from Silenus, a satyr that was friend and tutor of Dionysus.

Silphium Asteraceae- from *silphion*, Greek name for an unknown apiaceous plant, transferred to these plants apparently to preserve it.

Sinapis Brassicaceae- Latin name for mustard; from Celtic *nap*, name used for all turnip-like plants.

Siphonanthus Verbenaceae- from Greek *siphon* (tube) and *anthos* (flower), for the shape of the corolla.

Sirium Santalaceae- Latinization of *caju-siri*, its Malay name.

Sison Apiaceae- Greek name for stone parsley (*S. amomum*); apparently from Celtic *sizun* (stream), for the habitat of some species.

Sisymbrium Brassicaceae- Greek name for an unknown aquatic plant, apparently with a pleasant scent, used in garlands; used for these plants because some are aquatic.

Sisyrinchium Iridaceae- Greek name for an unknown iris or other bulbous plant, apparently transferred to this plant because pigs like to eat the roots; from *sys* (pig) and *rhinos* (snout, nose)

Sium Apiaceae- from Sion, Greek name for an unknown plant that grew in marshes, from Celtic *siw* (water); used for these plants because some grow in similar environments.

Sloanea Elaeocarpaceae- English-Irish physician, naturalist, and plant collector.

Smilax Smilacaceae- nymph lover of the mortal Crocus, after their relationship ended she was turned into a vine; from *smilakos* (to twine), for the plant's climbing habit.

Smyrnium Apiaceae- from the ancient Greek city of Smyrna (today Izmir in Turkey), whose main export product was myrrh (*smyrna* in Greek); used for these

plants because their scent is reminiscent of myrrh (resin produced by *Commiphora* species (Burseraceae).

Solandra Apiaceae- for Daniel Solander (1733-1782), Swedish physician, botanist and plant collector, one of Linnaeus's apostles.

Solanum Solanaceae- Latin name for an unknown plant, possibly black nightshade (*S. nigrum*); perhaps from Latin *solamen* (calming, comforting, soothing), due to its narcotic effect.

Soldanella Primulaceae- from *solidus* (ancient Roman coin) and *-ella* (diminutive), because the leaves are round like the coin.

Solidago Asteraceae- Latin name for goldenrod (*Solidago* spp.), from Latin *solido* (to compose), because it was used to heal wounds.

Sonchus Asteraceae- from sonchos, Greek name for a type of sowthistle, possibly *S. oleraceus*; from somphos (hollow), because the stem is hollow.

Sophia Malvacee- for Sophia Magdalena of Denmark (1746-1813), wife of King Gustav III of Sweden (patron of Linnaeus and his son).

Sophora Fabaceae- from *sophera* or *sofaira*, Arabic names for a tree with pea-like flowers; transferred to these plants because the flowers are similar.

Sorbus Rosaceae- Latin name for the fruit of the service tree (*S. domestica*); apparently from Celtic *sormel*, from *sor* (rough) and *mel* (apple), for the fruit's texture and resemblance to the apple.

Sparganium Typhaceae- from *sparganion*, Greek name for these plants; from *sparganon* (band, ribbon), for the shape of the leaves.

Spartium Fabaceae- from *spartion*, Greek name for Spanish broom (*Stipa tenacissima*); from *sparton* (rope), because it was used to make rope; transferred to these plants because they look similar.

Spathelia Rutaceae- from Greek *spathe* (spadix); referring to a palm, or because the tree looks like a palm tree.

Spergula Caryophyllaceae- from Latin *spergere* (spread, disperse)) and *-ula* (diminutive), for the wide dispersion of the seeds.

Spermacoce Rubiaceae- from Greek *sperma* (seed) and *adoke* (tip), because the fruit is crowned by the tips of the calyx.

Sphaeranthus Asteraceae- from Greek *sphair* (globe, sphere) and *anthos* flower, for the shape of the inflorescence.

Sphagnum Sphagnaceae- Latin name for a type of moss, from Greek *sphagnos*.

Spigelia Loganiaceae- for Adriaan van den Spiegel (1578-1625), Belgian physician, anatomist, and botanist.

Spinacia Amaranthaceae- Latin name for spinach, *S. oleracea;* from *spina* (thorn), because the fruit has two spines.

Spinifex Poaceae- from Latin *spina* (thorn) and *facio* (to do), because the leaves are pointed.

Spiraea Rosaceae- Latin name for a plant whose stems were intertwined in wreaths and garlands, from Greek *speiraria* and this from *speira* (spiral), for the flexibility of the stems; transferred to these plants apparently because their stems are flexible.

Splachnum Splachnaceae- from Greek *splachnos* (viscera), for the rough appearance of the apophysis when dry.

Spondias Anacardiaceae- Greek name for plum, transferred to this tree because the fruits look similar.

Stachys Lamiaceae- Greek name for woundwort; from *stachys* (spike), for the shape of the inflorescence.

Staehelina Asteraceae- for Benedict Staehelin (1695-1750), Swiss physician and botanist.

Stapelia Apocynaceae- for Jan Bode van Stapel (1602-1636), Dutch physician and botanist.

Staphylea Staphyleaceae- from Greek *staphyle* (group, cluster), because the flowers and fruits are arranged in groups.

Statice Plumbaginaceae- Latin name for the plant, which was used to stop diarrhea; from Greek *statike* (stop, static).

Stellaria Caryophyllaceae- from Latin stella (star) and *-aria* (related), for the shape of the flower.

Stellera Thymelaeaceae- for Georg Wilhelm Steller (1709-1746), German physician, naturalist, and explorer.

Stemodia Plantaginaceae- from Greek *stemon* (stamen) and *dis* (two, double), because the stamens have two anthers.

Sterculia Malvaceae- from Sterculius, Roman god of the process of cultivating and fertilizing the earth with excrement; from *stercus* (manure), for the flower's strong odor.

Steris Hydrophyllaceae- unknown meaning, perhaps a vernacular name.

Stilago Euphorbiaceae- from Greek *stylos* (style), perhaps for the length of the flower's style.

Stipa Poaceae- from Greek *stype* (silky, feathery), for the feathery inflorescences of these grasses, known as feather grasses; from *stype* (fiber), because the plant was used to make rope.

Stoebe Asteraceae- Greek and Roman name for a rough, thorny plant; transferred to these plants because the leaves are rough; from Greek *stoibe* (stuffing), because the plant was used to stuff cushions.

Stratiotes Hydrocharitaceae- Greek name for water lettuce (*Pistia stratiotes*); it also means soldier, and in that sense was adopted for these plants because its leaves resemble srords.

Struthia Thymelaeaceae- from Greek *struthion* (sparrow), because the fruit in the calyx and/or the seeds have a certain resemblance to a sparrow's beak.

Struthiola Thymelaeaceae- from Greek *struthion* (sparrow), because the fruit in the calyx and/or the seeds have a certain resemblance to a sparrow's beak.

Strychnos Loganiaceae- Greek name for a variety of toxic plants, used for this genus because it contains poisonous plants.

Styrax Styracaceae- Greek name for snowbell (*S. officinalis*) and its resin (storax); from Arabic or Semitic *assthirak*.

Subularia Brassicaceae- from Greek *subula* (awl) and *-aria* (related), for the shape of the leaf.

Suriana Surianaceae- for François Joseph Donat de Surian (1650-1691), French chemist, physician, botanist, and plant collector.

Swertia Gentianaceae- for Emanuel Sweert (Swert, Swertius) (1552-1612), Dutch gardener, merchant and illustrator.

Symphytum Boraginaceae- Greek name for comfrey; from *symphyo* (to bind) and *phyton* (plant), because it was used to heal wounds (bind tissues).

Syringa Oleaceae- nymph turned into a field of reeds, with which the god Pan made the first syrinx, an instrument composed of several parallel tubes; from Greek *syrynx* (tube), because the stems of these plants can be easily hollowed out.

T

Tabernaemontana Apocynaceae- for Jacobus Theodorus Tabernaemontanus (Jakob Theodor von Bergzabern) (1522-1590), German pharmacist, physician, and botanist.

Tagetes Asteraceae- from Tages, one of the founding prophets of the Etruscan religion and who sprang from freshly plowed land, son of Hercules and Minerva.

Tamarindus Fabaceae- from Arabic *tamar* (date) and *hindi* (from India), for the fruit's resemblance to dates.

Tamarix Tamaricaceae- Latin name for tamarisks; after the Tamaris River (today Tambre) in northwestern Spain.

Tamus Dioscoreaceae- from *tamnus*, Latin name for an unknown vine that produced a grape-like fruit; transferred to these plants because the fruits are round and arranged like those of the grape vine.

Tanacetum Asteraceae- from Greek *athanasia* (immortality), because the flowers last very long.

Tarchonanthus Asteraceae- from *tarchon*, Arabic name for tarragon (*Artemisia dracunculus*) and *anthos* (flower).

Targionia Targioniaceae- for Cipriano Targioni (1672-1748), Italian physician and anatomist.

Taxus Taxaceae- Latin name for yews (*Taxus* spp.); perhaps from *taxon* (bow), because the wood was used to make bows; from *taxis* (arrangement), because the leaves are arranged on the branches like the teeth of a comb.

Telephium Caryophyllaceae- from Telephus, king of Mysia at the time of the Trojan War, son of Hercules.

Terminalia Combretaceae- from Latin *terminus* (end), because the leaves are grouped at the end of the branches.

Tetracera Dilleniaceae- from Greek *tetra* (four) and *keras* (horn), because the four capsules of the fruit have extensions that resemble horns.

Tetragonia Aizoaceae- from Greek *tetra* (four) and *gonia* (angle, corner), because the fruit has four ribs or wings.

Tetragonotheca Asteraceae- from Greek *tetra* (four), *gonon* (angle, corner) and *theke* (box, case), because the capsule has four corners.

Teucrium Lamiaceae- from Teucro (Teucer), mythical founder and first king of Troy.

Thalia Marantaceae- for Johannes Thal (1542-1583), German physician and botanist.

Thalictrum Ranunculaceae- Greek name for a plant possibly in this genus, perhaps meadow rue (*T. rochebruneanum*); from *thallo* (grow green), for the attractive

green color of the young stems; from *thallein* (revive) and *ictar* (soon), for its early flowering.

Thapsia Apiaceae- name of an ancient Roman city and port on the coast of Tunisia, where the plant was first observed, it was apparently a thorny shrub from which a yellow dye was obtained.

Thea Theaceae- from Dutch *thee* and Chinese (Amoy) *t'e*, tea is prepared with the leaves of this plant; to adapt it to classical languages, Linnaeus derived it from the Greek *Thea* (goddess).

Theligonum Rubiaceae- Latin name for an unknown plant, transferred to this plant because the stem joints are somewhat reminiscent of a woman's knee; from Greek *thelys* (woman) and *gonum* (knee).

Theobroma Malvaceae- from Greek *theos* (god) and *broma* (food), perhaps because the French scholar Bachelot argued in 1684 that chocolate, rather than nectar and ambrosia, should be the food of the gods.

Theophrasta Primulaceae- for Theophrastus (c.371–c.287 BCE), Greek philosopher, naturalist and botanist, considered the father of botany.

Thesium Santalaceae- from Theseus (Thesius), mythical king and founding hero of Athens; the plant got this name because it was part of the wreath that Theseus gave to Ariadne.

Thevetia Apocynaceae- for André Thevet (1516-1590), French cosmographer, traveler, and writer.

Thlaspi Brassicaceae- Greek name for a type of cress; transferred to this plant of the same family because the seeds are compressed within the fruit; from *thlao* (to compress).

Thryallis Malpighiaceae- Greek name for a type of *Verbascum* whose thick, woolly leaves were used as lamp wicks.

Thuja Cupressaceae- from thuia, Greek name for a type of juniper, transferred to these plants of the same family because they look similar.

Thymbra Lamiaceae- Greek and Latin name for a plant with a scent very similar to thyme, possibly *Satureja thymbra*, used for these plants of the same family because of their resemblance and similar scent.

Thymus Lamiaceae- Greek name for thyme; from *thumos* (strength, courage), because its aroma fortifies and revives the spirit.

Tiarella Saxifragaceae- from Greek *tiara* (a small crown) and *-ella* (diminutive), for the shape of the capsule (fruit).

Tilia Malvaceae- Latin name for the linden tree (*Tilia* spp.), called *linn* in southern Sweden (Småland) and from which the surname Linnaeus derived (adopted by Linnaeus's father when he went to the university).

Tillaea Crassulaceae- for Michelangelo Tilli (1655-1740), Italian physician, botanist, and plant collector.

Tillandsia Bromeliaceae- for Elias Tillandz (1640-1693), Swedish physician and botanist.

Tinus Clethraceae- apparently from *laurustinus*, Latin name for *Viburnus tinus*.

Toluifera Fabaceae- for Tolu balsam, which is obtained from this plant, and the Greek *phoros* (to have).

Tomex Lamiaceae- Latin for stuffing, wool, because the surface of the plant is woolly, tomentose.

Tordylium Apiaceae- from *tordylion*, Greek name for a bean probably of this genus; Linnaeus indicated from *tornos* (lathe) and *illo* (to turn, I turn), apparently for the shape of the fruit.

Torenia Linderniaceae- for Olof Torén (1718-1753), Swedish naturalist, botanist, and plant collector.

Tormentilla Rosaceae- from Latin *tormentum* (torment) and *-ella* (diminutive), for the torments caused by dysentery, against which the plant was used.

Tournefortia Boraginaceae- for Joseph Pitton de Tournefort (1656-1708), French physician, botanist, and traveler.

Tozzia Orobanchaceae- for Bruno Tozzi (1656-1743), Italian botanist and mycologist.

Trachelium Campanulaceae- from Greek *trachelos* (neck), because the plant was used for conditions of the neck and/or trachea and throat.

Tradescantia Commelinaceae- for John Tradescant (1608-1652), English botanist, collected plants in Virginia.

Tragia Euphorbiaceae- for Hieronymus Bock (Tragus) (1498-1554), German physician, botanist, and plant collector.

Tragopogon Asteraceae- Greek name for goat's beard (*Tragopogon* spp.); from *tragos* (goat) and *pogon* (beard), apparently for the silky pappus that crowns the seed.

Trapa Lythraceae- from *calcitrapa* (caltrap), one of the Latin names for caltrops, a defensive weapon made of four metal points that impeded the advance of cavalry, because the fruit has four thorns.

Tremella Tremellaceae- from Latin *tremere* (to tremble), for the gelatinous consistency of the basidiocarps.

Trevia Euphorbiaceae- for Christoph Jacob Trew (1695-1769), German physician and botanist.

Trianthema Aizoaceae- from Greek *tria* (three) and *anthemon* (flower), because the leaf axils often produce three flowers.

Tribulus Zygophyllaceae- one of the Latin names for the caltrop, a defensive weapon made of four metal points that impeded the advance of cavalry; from *tria* (three) and *bolos* (point), because the fruit has three or sometimes four thorns.

Trichomanes Hymenophyllaceae- ancient name for a fern, perhaps *Asplenium trichomanes*; from Greek *trichos* (hair) and *manes* (fury, in the sense of excessive), because the plant produces many leaves with long, thin, hair-like central axes.

Trichosanthes Cucurbitaceae- from Greek *trichos* (hair) and *anthos* (flower), because the petals end in extensions that resemble long hairs.

Tridax Asteraceae- Greek name for a type of wild lettuce, transferred to this plant because the marginal flower petals are usually trifid; from *tridaknos* (eaten in three bites).

Trientalis Primulaceae- from Latin *triens* (one third of a foot), because the plant is small, growing approximately to that height.

Trifolium Fabaceae- Latin name for clover (*Trifolium* spp.), from *tri* (three) and *folium* (leaf), because the leaves are trifoliate.

Triglochin Juncaginaceae- from Greek *tris* (three) and *glochin* (point), probably for the three angles of the capsule.

Trigonella Fabaceae- from Greek *tris* (three), *gonia* (angle) and *-ella* (diminutive), because the corolla seems to be triangular.

Trilix Salicaceae- Latin for triple, because the calyx has three sepals and the corolla has three petals.

Trillium Melanthiaceae- from Latin *trilix* (triple), because the stem has three leaves and the flower has three sepals, three petals and three styles.

Trionum Malvaceae- From Latin *tris* (triple), because the leaf is divided into three sections.

Triopterys Malpighiaceae- from Greek *tris* (three) and *pteron* (wing), because the fruit has three wings.

Triosteum Caprifoliaceae- from Greek *tris* (three) and *osteon* (bone), because the fruit contains three stones, inside of which are the seeds.

Tripsacum Poaceae- from Greek *tris* (three) and *psakas* (small piece), because the spikes break into at least three pieces.

Triticum Poaceae- Latin name for *wheat*; from *tritum*, in turn from *tero* (to grind), because the grain is ground to make flour.

Triumfetta Malvaceae- for Giovanni Battista Triumfetti (1656-1708), Italian physician and botanist.

Trollius Ranunculaceae- from its German-Swiss name *trollblume*, Latinized to *Trollius flos*; from Old German *trol*, *trolin* (round), for the shape of the flower.

Tropaeolum Tropaeolaceae- from Greek *tropaion* (trophy), because the leaf resembles a shield and the flower a helmet, for the way Greeks displayed the shields and helmets of their defeated enemies.

Tulbaghia Amaryllidaceae- for Ryk (Rijk) Tulbagh (1699-1771), Dutch merchant, governor of the Cape Colony, correspondent of Linnaeus.

Tulipa Liliaceae- from Turkish *tulbend* and Persian *toliban*, names for the plant and its flower, which resembles a turban.

Turnera Passifloraceae- for William Turner (c.1508-1568), English physician, naturalist, and traveler.

Turraea Meliaceae- for Antonio Turra (1730-1796), Italian physician and botanist, correspondent of Linnaeus.

Turritis Brassicaceae- from Latin *turris* (tower), for its long, thin stems.

Tussilago Asteraceae- Latin name for coltsfoot (*T. farfara*); from *tussis* (to cough), because the plant was used to soothe coughs.

Typha Typhaceae- Greek name for a reed; from *typhos* (wetland, swamp), for the plant's habitat.

U

Ulex Fabaceae- Latin name for an unknown shrub resembling rosemary (*Rosmarinus officinalis*), transferred to this plant because it is thorny (rosemary has no thorns but its leaves are long and thin); from Celtic *ac* (point).

Ulmus Ulmaceae- Latin name for the elm (*Ulmus* spp.), possibly from Celtic *elm* or *ulm*.

Ulva Ulvaceae- Latin name for aquatic plants, from Celtic *ul* (water).

Uniola Poaceae- Latin name for an unknown plant, transferred to these plants because they have united glumes, from *unus* (one) and -*ola* (diminutive)).

Urena Malvaceae- from *uren*, name for *U. lobata* in Malabar, India.

Urtica Urticaceae- Latin name for nettle; from *urere* (burn), for the sensation it produces when touched.

Utricularia Lentibulariaceae- From Latin *utriculus* (sac, small bladder) and *-aria* (related), for the inflated bladders that trap insects.

Uvaria Annonaceae- from Latin *uva* (grape) and *-aria* (related), because the fruits resemble grapes.

Uvularia Colchicaceae- from Latin *uvula* (the structure that hangs from the upper palate) and *-aria* (related), because the flowers hang like the uvula.

V

Vaccinium Ericaceae- from *vaccinia nigra*, Latin name for an unknown plant; transferred to these plants apparently because the fruit is black.

Valantia Rubiaceae- for Sébastien Vaillant (1669-1722), French physician, botanist, and plant collector.

Valeriana Caprifoliaceae- for Valerius, a king; maybe the Roman emperor Publius Licinius Valerian (c. 195–c. 260).

Vallisneria Hydrocharitaceae- for Antonio Vallisneri (1661-1730), Italian physician, naturalist, and botanist.

Vateria Dipterocarpaceae- for Abraham Vater (1684-1751), German physician, anatomist, and botanist.

Vatica Dipterocarpaceae- from Latin *vates* (diviner, prophet), because the plant was used in religious ceremonies in China.

Velezia Caryophyllaceae- for Cristóbal Vélez (c.1710-1753), Spanish pharmacist, botanist, and plant collector.

Vella Brassicaceae- from *vela*, Gallic name for the plant called *erysimum* in Latin; transferred to this plant because they look similar.

Veratrum Melanthiaceae- Latin name for these plants, called false hellebores; apparently from *vere* (true) and *ater* (black): truly black, for the color of the rhizomes and/or the ripe pods.

Verbascum Scrophulariaceae- Latin name for *mullein* (*V. thapsus*); from *barbascum* and *barba* (beard), because the leaves and/or stamens are hairy.

Verbena Verbenaceae- Latin name for the leaves and branches of laurel, myrtle, olive, and other plants used in ceremonies and/or medicinal remedies; from Celtic *ferfaen*: *fer* (to carry) and *faen* (stone), for its use in treating stones (gall, kidney, etc.).

Verbesina Asteraceae- from the genus *Verbena* and the Latin *-ina* (similar, related), because the leaves are similar.

Veronica Plantaginaceae- from *vetonica* or *betony*, Greek name for an unknown plant; from Saint Veronica; from Latin *vera icona* (true image), for the image of Christ captured by Saint Veronica.

Viburnum Adoxaceae- Latin name probably for *V. lantana*; supposedly from *viere* (to tie), because the branches are flexible and were used for that purpose.

Vicia Fabaceae- Latin name for *vetch*, probably *V. sativa*; apparently from *vincio* (to bind), because the plant uses its tendrils to hold onto other plants.

Vinca Apocynaceae- abbreviation of *vinca pervinca* or *vincapervinca*, Latin name for the plant; apparently from *vincio* (bind, coil), because the long young stems were used to make wreaths.

Viola Violaceae- Latin name for violets and other fragrant plants; from Greek *ion* (violet), from the color of the flowers.

Viscum Santalaceae- Latin name for mistletoe and birdlime, a sticky substance used to trap birds that was obtained from the fruits.

Vitex Lamiaceae- Latin name for the chaste tree (*V. agnus-castus*); from *vieo* (tie up, weave), because the stems are flexible and are still used to make baskets.

Vitis Vitaceae- Latin name for the grape vine (*V. vinifera*); from Celtic *gwid* (tree, shrub, best of trees); or from the same root for Sanskrit *vja* and German *winden* (to twine), from the growth of the stem.

Volkameria Lamiaceae- for Johann Georg Volkamer (1662-1744), German physician and botanist.

W

Waltheria Malvaceae- for Augustin Friedrich Walther (1688-1746), German physician and botanist.

Warneria Rubiaceae- for Richard Warner (c.1712-1775), English botanist and plant collector, correspondent of Linnaeus.

Weinmannia Cunoniaceae- for Johann Wilhelm Weinmann (1683-1741), German pharmacist and botanist.

Willichia Plantaginaceae- for Christian Ludwig Willich (1718-1773), German physician and botanist.

Winterana Canellaceae- for John Winter (Wynter) (1555-1638), English navigator, used the bark of this plant to treat scurvy and introduced it to England.

X

Xanthium Asteraceae- from Greek *xanthion* (yellow), because the plant was used to dye hair yellow.

Xeranthemum Asteraceae- from Greek *xeros* (dry) and *anthos* (flower), because dried flowers retain their shape and color for a long time.

Ximenia Ximeniaceae- for Francisco Ximénez (1570-1620), Spanish missionary and naturalist in New Spain (Mexico).

Xylophylla Phyllanthaceae- from Greek *xylon* (wood) and *phyllon* (leaf), for the rigidity of the leaves.

Xylopia Annonaceae- from Greek *xylon* (wood) and *pikros* (bitter); because the wood is bitter.

Xyris Xyridaceae- Latin name for a wild iris; transferred to these plants with similar leaves; from Greek *xyros* (sharp, acute), because the leaves are pointed.

Y

Yucca Asparagaceae- from *yuca*, Taíno name for the plant and its root (cassava, manioc- *Manihot esculenta*); used for a very different plant.

Z

Zamia Zamiaceae- Latin name for the plant; from *zamiae*, in turn from *azaniae* (pine cones), because its cones resemble those of pines.

Zannichellia Potamogetonaceae- for Giovanni Girolamo Zannichelli (1662-1729), Italian pharmacist, physician, botanist, and plant collector.

Zanonia Cucurbitaceae- for Giacomo Zanoni (1615-1682), Italian pharmacist and botanist.

Zanthoxylum Rutaceae- from Greek *xanthos* (yellow) and *xylon* (wood), for the color of the wood.

Zea Poaceae- Greek name for an unknown cereal, used for corn perhaps to conserve it.

Zinnia Asteraceae- for Johann Gottfried Zinn (1727-1759), German physician and botanist.

Zizania Poaceae- from *zizanion*, Greek name for a weed that grew among wheat, probably darnel (*Lolium temulentum*), used for these similar plants.

Ziziphora Lamiaceae- from *zizi*, apparently an indigenous name, and Greek *phoros* (to have).

Zoegea Asteraceae- for Johan Zoëga (1742-1788), Danish entomologist and botanist, pupil of Linnaeus.

Zostera Zosteraceae- from Greek *zoster* (ribbon, strap), for the shape of the leaves.

Zygophyllum Zygophyllaceae- from Greek *zygos* (yoke) and *phyllon* (leaf), because the leaf is composed of two leaflets joined at the base.